



# THE SUNDAY TIMES

## Warring Windsors’ awkward truce to honour the Queen

The two couples put on an unexpected show of unity as they mingled with wellwishers

Roya Nikkhah, Tim Shipman, Caroline Wheeler and Glen Keogh

The Queen's death led to a royal rapprochement yesterday when the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Sussex put months of bitter discord behind them to jointly honour their grandmother's memory.

In an unexpected show of unity, William, Harry, Kate and Meghan emerged from a car behind the gates of Windsor Castle and walked to meet cheering crowds and view the flowers left outside.

Harry placed a hand on his wife's back as they looked at the tributes. As the group walked down the Long Walk there were dozens of shouts of "Harry" and "Meghan". Well-wishers passed the couples bouquets of tulips and single red roses.

Baljinder Ranow, 64, said it was "fabulous" and "so beautiful to see". She added: "I felt so emotional and I felt the Queen would have loved it. I just hope in the future they remain like that and that the brothers come together, and the families."

Her daughter, Banita Ranow, 28, said Kate had told them about what her youngest son had said about the Queen's death: "Louis said 'At least Granny is with Great-Grandpa

now'." Ranow, from west London, said Kate was "welling up" as she spoke.

Plans were revealed yesterday for the Queen's funeral, a week tomorrow, which promises to be the grandest state occasion since millions gathered for the funeral of Sir Winston Churchill, her first prime minister, in 1965.

The Queen, who has been lying at rest in the ballroom at Balmoral Castle, will begin her final journey this morning, when her coffin will be taken by road to the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh. Tomorrow, it will be taken in a procession up the Royal Mile to St Giles' Cathedral for a service.

The Princess Royal will accompany her mother's coffin on a flight to London on Tuesday and the Queen will then lie in state in Westminster Hall. It is estimated that as many as a million people will file past the coffin – five times the number who paid their respects to the Queen Mother.

Police and Whitehall sources said they expect two million people every day to gather in the streets of London – numbers last seen during the London Olympics in 2012. A police source said: "It will be like the Notting Hill carnival every day."

Among those expected to visit the Queen in Westminster Hall are foreign dignitaries. A senior Whitehall source said: "It will be on a first come, first served basis. We will open the queue and control it through the normal way. It is like trying to organise something on a similar scale to the London Olympics in a matter of days."

Nadhim Zahawi, the chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, will be chairing daily meetings to oversee the event to try to facilitate "as many people as possible" being able to see the Queen, according to a government source.

King Charles III was yesterday formally declared the nation's new monarch at a sombre meeting of the accession council, attended by more than 200 members of the privy council, including six former prime ministers.

He paid tribute to the reign of his mother, "unequalled in its duration, its dedication and its devo-



The Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of Sussex at Windsor Castle yesterday on their way to meet members of the public gathered outside the gates

tion" and while he spoke of his family's grief, he said the "sympathy expressed by so many to my sister and brothers" had been the "greatest consolation".

This week, Liz Truss, the prime minister, will accompany him on a tour around Britain.

Buckingham Palace confirmed that the Queen's children and Vice-Admiral Sir Tim Laurence

will join the King in the procession behind the Queen's coffin in Scotland.

His spokesman said that Charles was still in "discussions" about arrangements for the state funeral.

He said: "I think what the family are genuinely focusing on is the death of Her Majesty the Queen and are united on that. They are trying to get through this period by

honouring her majesty the Queen as best as possible."

Although the brothers put on a show of unity at Windsor, it is understood that the camps required extended negotiations behind the scenes beforehand, delaying their arrival for the walk-about by 45 minutes.

Palace officials also refused to say whether Harry and Meghan's

children, Archie and Lilibet, would be styled as prince and princess with HRH titles, as protocol would usually allow for the grandchildren of the sovereign.

A spokesman for the Prince and Princess of Wales said: "The Prince of Wales invited the Duke and Duchess to join him and the Princess of Wales. The Prince of Wales thought it was an important show

of unity at an incredibly difficult time for the family."

Shortly before appearing, William issued a personal and moving tribute to his "Grannie", saying: "She was by my side at my happiest moments. And she was by my side during the saddest days of my life. I knew this day would come, but it will be some time before the reality

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NEWMAN'S VIEW

## Signing in the Carolean age with a glorious exercise in box-ticking

Josh Glancy and Nicholas Hellen

The Carolean age began with mottled skies and curious crowds lining the streets outside St James's Palace in London, hoping to catch a glimpse of the new King, who wore the heavy emotion of the day on his face.

All the pomp and gravity of the British state was on display for the accession of Charles III. Official bobbies kept excited onlookers at bay, allowing the succession of black Jaguars and Range Rovers to roll in, carrying an array of former prime ministers, cabinet members, archbishops and judges.

The Accession Council is a gloriously elaborate piece of box-ticking, issuing the proclamations and signatures that confirm Charles's kingship. It was televised

for the first time, allowing the world to peek into the recesses of British power and ceremony.

Part one took place without Charles, in the picture gallery at the palace with an impressive and very newly appointed Penny Mordaunt presiding confidently over affairs as lord president of the council. The words she used were positively Shakespearean, but a plea from Simon Case, the cabinet secretary, for guests to ensure their mobile phones were switched off struck a more contemporary tone.

Framed by a Canaletto and wearing a prominent black alice band, Mordaunt delivered the solemn royal news that has reverberated around the world these past three days: "My Lords, it is my sad duty to inform you that her most gracious majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Second, has passed away on

Thursday the 8th September 2022 at Balmoral Castle."

Then the "platform party", which included Prince William, now the Prince of Wales, Camilla, the Queen Consort, the prime minister, Liz Truss, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, signed a proclamation in ink declaring that, on the "10th day of September in the year of our lord 2022", Charles has "become our only and rightful liege lord, head of the Commonwealth, defender of the faith".

Once that process was finished, the lucky 200 privy councillors – who were whittled down from a body of 718 – shuffled towards the throne room to greet King Charles III, with Prince William raising his eyebrows in acknowledgement at Truss as the party made their exit.

It was a notably more diverse

MILLIONS WILL LINE STREETS TO MARK END OF ELIZABETHAN ERA

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group than the one that greeted Queen Elizabeth on her accession in 1952, and it was a less overwhelming affair, with far less Tudor flummery. Then, a tearful 25-year-old Elizabeth told the assembly that her heart was "too full" with grief and emotion to say more than that she would work, as her father had, to "advance the happiness and prosperity of my peoples".

This time a 73-year-old Charles, the oldest monarch to ascend the throne, was solemn but composed in his black tailcoat and black tie, decorated only by a small bejewelled royal pin stating "CR", Charles Rex. He paid tribute to the "dedication and devotion" of his mother's unparalleled reign, and promised to uphold her example of "lifelong love and selfless service". He also swore to promote the

"peace, harmony and prosperity of the peoples of these islands and of the Commonwealth, realms and territories throughout the world".

Charles also made sure to pay tribute to Camilla, who was added to the privy council in 2016 to ensure she would be by his side when these events came to pass. "I am profoundly encouraged by the constant support of my beloved wife," he said.

We have long known this moment would come, but nothing could prepare any of us for the strange novelty of hearing "God Save the King". None of the privy counsellors in attendance was present at Elizabeth's accession.

Amid the uncertainty and turbulence of this moment – a new monarch and a new prime minister in the same week, economic malaise and war on the continent –

there was something deeply reassuring about seeing the great and the good of this country assembled in one room to confirm Charles as king: bulky Boris Johnson and Gordon Brown deep in a surprisingly amiable conversation; Sir Tony Blair and Sir Keir Starmer in a Labour conclave; Theresa May being regaled by a cheery and animated David Cameron, presumably not talking about Brexit. Nick Clegg came over from Silicon Valley. Sadiq Khan, Jacob Rees-Mogg, Angela Rayner, Ed Miliband: all of the most familiar faces from the past decade of British politics were there – except for Jeremy Corbyn.

The sturdy, ancient machinery of the British state clicked seamlessly into gear for this passage of power: trumpets were blown, cockades were worn, cannons

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## Ukraine’s lightning push through Russian lines raises hope of turning point

Matthew Campbell

Russian forces suffered their worst defeat since March yesterday when they were forced to abandon their main foothold in the northeast of Ukraine to avoid encirclement in a rapid counter-offensive by Kyiv's troops.

Military analysts spoke of a possible turning point in the war. Moscow tried to portray the hasty retreat from several vital strategic strongholds near Kharkiv as an orderly redeployment.

Ukraine broke through one of

the war's most hotly contested frontlines, taking back dozens of towns and villages in a shock offensive that began five days ago.

Videos on social media depicted the aftermath of what appeared to be the disorderly retreat of a bedraggled Russian army, showing prisoners seized by the Ukrainians, the burnt-out remains of military vehicles as well as boxes of ammunition and food supplies strewn on the ground.

One photo posted on Facebook showed Ukrainian troops raising a flag over the town of Kupiansk, a

railway hub and supply route for Russian troops in the east.

Later Russia tacitly acknowledged the loss of Izium, a city that it spent weeks trying to capture in the spring and then turned into its main logistics hub in the northeast. The defence ministry in Moscow said that it had ordered troops to leave the vicinity to reinforce operations in the neighbouring region of Donetsk, the state-run Tass news agency reported. Ukraine did not confirm the city's capture.

Kyiv is thought to have taken advantage of Russia's redeploy-

ment of some of its best troops from the northeast to Kherson after the Ukrainian offensive to recapture the southern city, a gateway to Crimea and ports on the Black Sea. This left undermanned positions vulnerable to attack.

"Russian forces were likely to have been taken by surprise," said the British Ministry of Defence. "The sector was only lightly held and Ukrainian units have captured or surrounded several towns."

The Russian withdrawal from Izium, and other towns across the region, was the most significant

shift in Kyiv's favour since Moscow's forces fled in disarray from around the capital in March.

Ukraine recaptured the territory in a fast-moving push through Russian lines that was launched on Tuesday in conjunction with its slower-moving offensive around the city of Kherson in the south.

The Institute for the Study of War, a Washington think tank, claimed that Kyiv had won back 965 square miles of territory.

General Sir Richard Barrons, a former British army commander, said: "The Ukrainians saw an

opportunity and did a very good job to seize it. It's good news they're on the offensive, showing the Russians can be beaten."

Barrons sounded a note of caution, however. "There will be exuberance, over-selling. But Russia still sits on 20 per cent of Ukrainian territory."

He added: "The battle for Kherson is what really matters strategically. This is going to go on for some time."

**Liberators seize back towns as Russians scatter, page 20**

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

Queen  
Elizabeth II  
1926–2022











VICTORIA JONES, JONATHAN BRADY, KIRSTY O'CONNOR/PA



Charles III signed the official documents at St James's Palace yesterday, watched by the Queen Consort and the Prince of Wales. Speaking at the Accession Council, he praised the Queen's "unequalled reign". Guardsmen later gave three cheers for the King in Friary Court in the palace



## PRINCE OF WALES'S TRIBUTE TO HIS 'GRANNIE'

GEOFF PUGH/AFP



William and Kate with the Queen, who he said was by his side at his "happiest moments"

"On Thursday, the world lost an extraordinary leader, whose commitment to the country, the realms and the Commonwealth was absolute. So much will be said in the days ahead about the meaning of her historic reign.

"I, however, have lost a grandmother. And while I will grieve her loss, I also feel incredibly grateful. I have had the benefit of the Queen's wisdom and reassurance into my fifth decade.

My wife has had twenty years of her guidance and support. My three children have got to spend holidays with her and create memories that will last their whole lives.

"She was by my side at my happiest moments. And she was by my side during

the saddest days of my life. I knew this day would come, but it will be some time before the reality of life without Grannie will truly feel real.

"I thank her for the kindness she showed my family and me. And I thank her on behalf of my generation for providing an example of service and dignity in public life that was from a different age, but always relevant to us all.

My grandmother famously said that grief was the price we pay for love. All of the sadness we will feel in the coming weeks will be testament to the love we felt for our extraordinary Queen. I will honour her memory by supporting my father, the King, in every way I can."

## Warring Windsors call a truce for Queen

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of life without Grannie will truly feel real."

William said Britain, the Commonwealth and the world had "lost an extraordinary leader", but he added: "I, however, have lost a grandmother. And while I will grieve her loss, I also feel incredibly grateful. I have had the benefit of The Queen's wisdom and reassurance into my fifth decade.

"My wife has had 20 years of her guidance and support. My three children have got to spend holidays with her and create memories that will last their whole lives.

"I thank her for the kindness she showed my family and me. And I thank her on behalf of my generation for providing an example of service and dignity in public life that was from a different age but always relevant to us all."

He added: "My grandmother famously said that grief was the price we pay for love. All of the sadness we will feel in the coming weeks will be testament to the love we felt for our extraordinary Queen. I will honour her memory by supporting my father, The King, in every way I can."

Earlier in the day, other close members of the Queen's family returned from church in Scotland to look at the flowers outside Balmoral, including the Duke of York, who told a mourner: "We've been allowed one day as a family. Tomorrow we start the process of handing her on."

## A new era begins with comforting tradition

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fired, the mystic chords of collective memory stirred by rituals that stretch back long into our shared past. The privy council stood throughout proceedings, as is custom.

The first "modern" accession council took place in 1603, when James VI of Scotland succeeded Elizabeth, the Virgin Queen, and became James I of England. It was a fraught moment in British history, as the Tudor line ended and the crowns of two rival kingdoms were united in James Stuart.

There were echoes of that era's religious strife in Charles's accession, as he took a special oath to defend the established church in Scotland, a reminder of the deep religious power invested in the role of monarchy. "I shall inviolably maintain and preserve the settlement of the true Protestant religion as established by the laws made in Scotland," the King declared, in a statement that was later signed by the first minister, Nicola Sturgeon.

There has been considerable anxiety over how a fractious country would greet a king whose long and at times chequered past is well known to us all. Yet the first 48 hours of Charles's reign will have buoyed him: he was met by enthusiastic crowds outside Buckingham Palace on Friday. He was kissed, blessed and cheered by subjects, seeming to grow in stature in his new role.

Many thousands also gathered outside St James's Palace. Among them were Emily Peill, 48, and her son Alex, whom she had taken out of Saturday school to travel down from Bath for the occasion. "It's been an incredibly sad week," she said. "But I'm very excited for Charles, I really am. It's been a long time coming. It does feel different with him as king, I do think he will step up to the mark and carry on his mother's legacy."

Nils and Hanne Lehr had travelled further, from Denmark, for a glimpse of history. "I think being king will offer an opportunity to Charles," said Nils. "He can't do better than his mum. But I think he will grow in the role and be a good king. The British people need someone to glue them together."

Proceedings in the throne room concluded with the signing of documents including the instrument confirming his oath to protect the church in Scotland. Charles signed the old-fashioned way, dipping his fountain pen into an ink pot given to him by William and Harry. The King also had a new signature: "Charles R",

**Gordon Brown and Boris Johnson sign the proclamation of accession**



rather than just "Charles". William and Camilla signed with a biro, the Queen Consort's elegant Van Cleef & Arpels Alhambra bracelet flashing across the screen.

Amid all the pomp and circumstance, Charles became mildly agitated after a footman failed to remove a tray of pens that were in his way. He waved impatiently – keen, perhaps, after all these years, to get on with proceedings.

"I loved the human moment, when His Majesty was agitating to have the pens moved out of the way on the desk," said John Bridcut, a friend of the King. "It was very natural, and characteristic."

Mordaunt then concluded proceedings, receiving a patrician "approved" from Charles for the declaration of a bank holiday for the day of the Queen's funeral, which will be on Monday, September 19. News of the King's confirmation was then announced to the people in Friary Court. This is such an old part of the Tudor palace that a window had to be removed to allow David Vines White, the Garter King of Arms, to go out and make his proclamation.

The state trumpeters of the Household Cavalry appeared alongside a detachment of the King's Guard and the band of the Coldstream Guards. Vines White made the "principal proclamation", informing the assembled crowd of 1,000, once more for emphasis, that "Prince Charles Philip Arthur George is now by the death of our late sovereign of happy memory, become our only lawful and rightful liege lord". Cheers and hoorays and "God save the King!" echoed across St James's and through the crowd lining Pall Mall.

And so the Carolean age has officially started, the name drawing its roots from the old Germanic word karilaz, meaning "free man". Wedded to duty and obligation, King Charles III will not be that. But he is free of the anticipation and anxiety of being heir to the throne – and free of the strange and unique knowledge that the loss of his beloved mother would make him a monarch. That is all done now. He has acceded. Charles is King.

## TIMES RADIO

**8am** The life vice-president of the Women's Royal Army Corps Association, **Lt Col (Retd) Sue Westlake**

**10am** **Bertie Ahern**, who served as Irish prime minister from 1997 to 2008

**11am** **Lord Williams of Oystermouth**, the former Archbishop of Canterbury

**1.05pm** Royal chaplain **the Rev Dr George Whyte**, who will stand vigil over the Queen's coffin in Edinburgh

## PRINT DEADLINES

The Magazine, Style and Culture sections of today's Sunday Times were printed before the death of the Queen

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LEE FLOYD/AVALON



# Pink hair, marmalade, lime hotpants – typical British understatement

Our sense of utter desolation did not last long. Gin, explosions and rousing singalongs soon lifted the mood



There was the rain, obviously. A solid, unflappable 1950s curtain of perma-drizzle; the Queen’s sort of weather. Just before 6.30pm on Thursday, though, the sun broke through and it stopped. The man I was interviewing, an accountant, went silent: we glanced up at the Palace. The flag had suddenly come down.

“She’s gone,” he whispered.

I looked back and tears were streaming. It was extraordinary: how could a British face produce so much water? Then a woman with pink hair went into paroxysms: “Oh my God, it’s happening, it’s happening.” And they fell on each other and wept, two strangers. Then they cracked open cans of pink gin.

What emotion were you supposed to feel at the death of someone like the Queen? No one seemed to know. The crowds started milling, not in grief, exactly; more bewilderment. How could she? She was fine two days ago: we all saw the pictures with Liz Truss. A blond boy said: “I didn’t want to believe it. It didn’t seem right. It doesn’t seem real.”

The Queen’s death has been one of the few moments of profound reality in her fantastical reign. Amid the ceremonial awe and ephemeral gestures, it is now a fact that she is gone, and it has hit us with unexpected force. It felt, for a while on Thursday, almost like a mother leaving her children: “I feel like I’ve lost a nan,” said the woman with pink hair, hugging her Union Jack. People kept looking at the flag, as if it might go back up – that is what royalty will do to you. It is, after all, meant to be, as Walter Bagehot said, magic. But this time there wasn’t any.

It struck me, as I looked at the flowers, that what they were waiting for was magic – a miracle, like the Queen-shaped cloud in Telford (“I panicked,” said the woman who took the photo). It was, as the pink-haired woman said, “surreal”. The only people who knew the miracle wasn’t coming were the journalists, and the Christians, who had rushed to the scene in high-vis jackets. The “Billy Graham rapid response team” gives “spiritual and emotional care” to people “affected by manmade or natural disas-

ters”. Which was this? Both, I reckon. Apparently Graham, America’s leading televangelist, was a friend of Queen – she gave him an honorary knighthood. Who knew? “Televangelist” isn’t how I saw our beady old Queen, but, looking at the scores of hobby little comms tents opposite the Victoria memorial, you thought: perhaps she took lessons on appealing to a religiously obsessed mass audience from him.

What struck me was how normal everyone seemed. There was no wailing except from the flag woman: “I literally camp out with this fella,” she shrieked, pointing at a man. “I remember him from Princess Diana.” Some people were clutching jars of marmalade, but really these were the Barbour ankle boot of crowds. Timeless yet cloddishly elegant. They weren’t hysterics or Diana worshipers but Queen fans, a different breed.

Mostly it was young middle-class workers dropping by to pay respects. A woman with a corgi, tattooed Canadians, acres of horse people, puzzled Swedes, daytrippers from Bromley, young men: “We’ve only known the Queen.”

BRIAN LAWLESS/PA



An 18-year-old girl from Greta Green wore a sexed-up *Love Island* appropriation of the Queen’s outfits “as a tribute” – a lime bouclé jacket and hotpants, nine inches of make-up, false lashes and white mules. A forensic psychiatrist who laid a card and a rose said she was here only because Pentonville was “in lockdown”. She “role-modelled” herself on the Queen. The Queen showed her how to be “stable with unwell patients”. Managing collective mental illness – well, that is what monarchy is about.

I found a pair of well-spoken Prince William types at the fountains. Ed, in cycling gear, told me he was a former cavalry officer who used to be the Queen’s “bodyguard”. Sweeping down the Mall with the Blues and Royals was “amazing”; they’d train every summer in Norfolk. There would be “simulated gunfire and bombs” to get the horses used to the noise. When he went to Windsor to have tea with the Queen – “with James Blunt”, he said – “we talked about the horses mainly”. Oliver, his friend, who worked in an “advisory consultancy”, said he once had to arrange a gift to the Queen for

a head of state. This involved “speaking to the Palace extensively” to work out what would convey the right amount of deference. What do you give the woman who has already received all the gifts? She’d been given sacrificial goats, live ducks, jewels, ceremonial swords, a 100ft totem pole. What was appropriate? Obviously the conversations would be long. No one really knew who she was.

Most of the people outside the Palace felt as if they knew her yet couldn’t, probably, even tell you what her favourite song was, or where she rode her favourite pony. It still seems amazing to me that we don’t know how she died, or when, or with who, or why, and that we will now never know “what she has seen with her eyes but never spoken”, as the crying accountant put it. It seems unimaginable that such a historical record will be lost.

No one knew what she was thinking or felt – that was the point. Yet here were thousands of people who could talk about her at length, like a family member: what they supposed she felt or what she might have done. Her greatest gift was to allow us to run wild with our imag-

inations. How many books, how many films, how many television shows have been made that suppose what she thought? The extreme cultural licence she granted is her legacy.

The crowds came even though they knew they were “going to see what isn’t there”, said a tearful woman on Friday. The palace felt “so vacant, right? Extra empty.” She came in her Queen’s outfit: a waxed jacket and big velvet hair accessory à la Tiggy Legge-Bourke.

“I don’t know who would be so good for the sake of being good. I don’t know who would act not out of self-interest,” she said, tears streaming. “I don’t mean to slight King Charles, but I don’t know who shows that. We’ve had loads of public figures who represent the opposite of that. I hope other people rise up to meet it now it’s not here.” If there is anything we might carry forward, let it be that.

At 1pm we traipsed to Hyde Park Corner to watch the gun salute, a shuddering show of power. Thousands clapped as if at a garden party after the 96 shots, before the Royal Horse Artillery thundered off, pulling a horse ambulance

behind them. Back at the palace, helicopters signalled King Charles’s arrival. There were a few cheers, a few bars of *God Save the King*, but mostly silence.

Charles cut a forlorn figure, pecking his way in his immaculate suit across the vast forecourt with Camilla, recognisable from her gigantic spaniel hair. A man got out of a car with an embroidered cushion – was this Charles’s infamous cushion? A lonely cushion for the big, draughty palace, which hasn’t seen a top-tier buttock for nearly three years.

From watching the new King, it suddenly became obvious how fast history was accelerating. It was coming at us like a wall of flags, chevrons, eagles, feathers, drums wrapped in black felt, kissed hands. As we watched him arriving, Charles stopped being a person and became an era. The King, whether he is good at it or not, will be made something out of nothing – by sheer force, if necessary, out of symbols and gestures and almost no words – as his mother was.

On Saturday there were trumpets as his accession was announced. The vibes of St James’s Palace were solidly Restoration: red velvet walls, brocaded thrones, suspiciously high heels on men. The atmosphere at Buckingham Palace had changed: it was jauntier; now people knew what they were doing. It was more ... Carolean? They had seen the King giving a theatrical speech, eyes red raw. It was filled with emotion: I imagined him crying, “Darling, darling,” at a long-lost friend. He approached small talk like a fashion person: he had been “dreading” this moment. Who knew that the family member Charles would turn out most like was Princess Margaret?

The crowd was so excited that even furniture vans were cheered. “It is just mad,” said a woman, “that he has to take on this role and grieve for his mother.” I said I thought there might be some HR issues. “Yeah,” she said, wryly, but that is just one of the things that differentiate us from royals. They can’t get sick, get sad or die. She was typical of this crowd: quietly glamorous. She told me she worked for the “wider family”. Looking at her jeans, Breton top, Cartier watch and diamonds, I could guess which bit.

I wondered if I should ask her the question. “Is the Queen in heaven?” “Yes,” she said. But how would she know after 96 years of fresh paint and people taking months over gifts? Perhaps she would know only because heaven, for people like her, to quote Alan Bennett, must be a bit of “a comedown”.

“People hoped for a miracle that never came

Rachel Ellwood and daughter Robyn examine flowers left at Hillsborough Castle, Co Down



QUEEN ELIZABETH II

							
1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949

# Truss was calm in a first week of storms – but many more are on the horizon

A civil service shake-up, questions over how to pay for the energy bailout ... it's a steep learning curve for the fledgling PM



Chief Political Commentator

No one in Downing Street thought much of it when a routine briefing for the new prime minister was cancelled on Wednesday afternoon. Liz Truss was busy with her plans for an energy price freeze and her ministerial reshuffle.

Future historians, however, will see that at 2.30pm that day she had been due to get a “bridges briefing”, the codename for preparations for the Queen’s death.

“[The routine bridges briefing] was cancelled because of the energy announcement and the reshuffle,” a No 10 source said. “Little did we know.”

Less than 24 hours later Truss was at the dispatch box, outlining to MPs her plans to freeze household energy bills when she was passed a note by Nadhim Zahawi, the Cabinet Office minister. It said Buckingham Palace was to issue a statement about the Queen’s health.

Truss had got to her feet knowing the Queen’s death was “imminent”. She was with her team in her Commons office preparing for the energy statement when she heard. “The mood was one of shock,” one of those present said. “Immense sadness and incredulity.”

If Truss is prime minister for a decade she may never have a bigger day than Thursday: a head of government less than two days in the job making an even bigger economic intervention than the pandemic furlough scheme, battling to finalise her ministerial team and facing the death of a beloved head of state whose final public act was to make her prime minister.

The Queen’s death robbed the government of media coverage to publicise details of its help for families when the public wants to know how they will deal with soaring inflation. As these problems piled up, the new team began one of the most radical shake-ups of how government is run that anyone can remember. It

has left Conservative MPs wondering if Truss has bitten off more than she can chew.

Asked about the planning for the Queen’s funeral, one of Truss’s political aides admitted: “To be honest, the civil service has taken over.”

At the start of the week, it looked like officials were being sidelined. Dozens of civil servants in Downing Street received a peremptory email on Tuesday telling them to leave No 10. Sir Tom Scholar, the permanent secretary at the Treasury, was told he was no longer required in his first meeting with Kwasi Kwarteng, the new chancellor. The mood in the civil service was “sulphurous”. One official phoned a friend in the Labour Party and said: “They’re making a real rod for their own backs.”

But when photos of Truss’s first cabinet emerged on Wednesday MPs were surprised to see that not one of her spin doctors or political aides, from chief of staff Mark Fullbrook down, was present. Only Truss’s closest civil service aide, Nick Catsaras, her new principal private secretary, was there. One politico from a previous administration remarked drily: “The irony was that those people had to be in cabinet when she was a secretary of state as you had to deal with all her leaks.”

Aides said Truss’s administration would be about substance, not spin. “Liz doesn’t want a presidential style No 10,” an aide said. “She wants it to be lean, professional and relentlessly focused on

delivery – policymaking and legislating. You’ll see fewer prime ministerial visits, fewer events in No 10, and in its place more meetings on the economy, on energy, and the things people really care about.”

And in this she has handed huge power to the civil servants. One close ally explained: “The good ones will be deeply empowered by her. The civil service are always in the ascendancy with Liz as long as they actually do their job.”

Insiders say Catsaras, who was Truss’s PPS at the Foreign Office, would now be one of the most powerful people in government, in effect a “civil service chief of staff” to sit alongside Fullbrook, whose background is in political campaigns, not Whitehall. “To understand this No 10 you need to understand Nick Catsaras,” one said. “This man is practically her kindred spirit. There is no one she trusts more on anything.” The source added: “Liz likes everyone around her to have very specific things they are responsible for, own them, do them well and then move out of the way.”

In another unorthodox move, Truss is using the cabinet room as her office, with senior aides billeted next door in the study where Boris Johnson, Theresa May and David Cameron worked. “She looks very comfortable at that table,” a cabinet minister said. “There’s a calmness about her, which is good.”

It was there that Truss set about finalising her energy announcement and preparing for her first prime minister’s questions. Her team worked on the plan – a two-year freeze in energy bills at £2,500 a year – until 1am on Tuesday and Wednesday, Truss “grilling” officials on the detail. The package was agreed at about 10.30pm on Wednesday.

Throughout these conversations, Truss told aides: “I understand people and businesses are struggling badly. These are extraordinary times and it requires an extraordinary intervention from government. But we also must take action to ensure this doesn’t happen again. That means boosting supply and doing more to increase energy security.”

Key details of how the plan will work were left unexplained in her statement to parliament on Thursday, not least the

MONDAY



Liz Truss delivering her acceptance speech in London after being announced as the winner of the months-long contest for the Conservative Party leadership

TUESDAY



With her husband Hugh O’Leary, an accountant, on the doorstep of No 10 on her first day in office

WEDNESDAY



A moment of light relief during her first prime minister’s questions – a confident turn from the debutante

THURSDAY



She read a statement in Downing Street after the death of the Queen had been announced

FRIDAY



Meeting King Charles at Buckingham Palace to round off what was a turbulent first five days in office

estimated cost. Aides argued that this depends on the price of gas.

That was the third of four public performances for the new prime minister, after her speech outside No 10 on Tuesday and her first showdown with Sir Keir Starmer on Wednesday. A further speech came on Thursday when she spoke to the nation about the Queen’s death.

“It has been a whirlwind week,” an aide said. “Fog over Aberdeen airport delayed Liz’s landing to see the Queen. There was biblical rain in the car on the way to Balmoral. And we didn’t know until ten minutes before Liz read out her Downing Street statement whether or not it would be out on the street or inside because of rain showers.”

Tory MPs were underwhelmed by Truss’s first speech as PM but impressed by her performance at PMQs, where she returned Starmer’s peroration that she was “nothing new” with interest: “There is nothing new about a Labour leader who is calling for more tax rises.”

Despite that, Labour strategists were encouraged that the prime minister had refused to consider a windfall tax on the big oil companies. “It’s an enormous strategic misstep which Boris Johnson would never have made,” a Labour official said. “It’s the first time in about 15 years that it’s us doing the simple stuff the public agree with.”

Truss’s approach is to be upfront about what she thinks and believes. A Truss ally said: “The aim is to rise above schoolyard politics and actually engage in a debate. We want to show people what we actually stand for and believe in.”

Not all Tories are convinced. When Starmer went to the Commons terrace last week, a Conservative minister was overheard saying: “May as well congratulate him on winning the next election.”

On Thursday afternoon No 10 got a call from the Palace saying that the Queen had died. The prime minister wrote her speech about the Queen herself, having rejected a civil service version prepared under David Cameron. But her hastily written oratory lacked emotional bite. One opponent said: “It was like Year 8 had been asked to give a presentation on the Queen using Wikipedia.”

She was somewhat overshadowed by Boris Johnson, who issued an eloquent statement and then gave one of his best speeches in the Commons. A former Johnson aide admitted: “Boris was working on it months ago, writing and rewriting it, he wanted it to be perfect.” Having to make the speech from the backbenches must have been exquisite torture for the former prime minister.

Scepticism remains about whether a slimmed-down No 10 can really deal with the challenges it faces. A former No 10 aide said: “PMs always go in with some great new structure that will streamline things and then discover they’ve just handed away power before spending 12 months scrabbling to get it back.”

But from their point of view, the new team has been tested early, which will stand them in good stead through turbulence ahead. “Officials have described it as the busiest week in No 10 in memory,” an aide said. “We had no idea when we wrote ‘Together we can get through the storm’ into Liz’s No 10 speech how apposite it would come to feel.”

Energy crisis, page 18

# Cricketers sing for the new monarch, but football takes a kicking for cancellations

Hugo Daniel and Liam Kelly

After a minute’s silence, the crowd and players raised their heads and began to sing the first rendition of God Save the King at a national sporting event for more than 70 years.

The soprano Laura Wright led the performance, following a one-bell chime by the Irish Guards, at the third cricket Test between England and South Africa at the Oval in south London. Play had been postponed on Friday but resumed yesterday.

The scenes of cricket fans paying tribute prompted some to express regret that other events, including all football fixtures, had been cancelled. “Given the wonderful and moving scenes at the Oval, it feels a real shame that football is not taking place this weekend, therefore missing the opportunity to pay its respects,” the BBC presenter Gary Lineker wrote on Twitter.

The former footballer Peter Crouch agreed. “I know it’s only a game and some things are much bigger but imagine [if] all our games went ahead this weekend,” he tweeted. “Black armbands, silences observed, national anthem, Royal band playing

etc to the millions around the world watching? Isn’t that a better send-off?”

The cancellation of matches from the Premier League to children’s grassroots games, and the announcement that the *Last Night of the Proms*, which was due to take place yesterday, would not go ahead, drew criticism from punters and TV personalities alike, who argued that people would have used the occasions as opportunities to pay tributes and share in their grief.

The comedian Rachel Parris, host of the comedy show *Late Night Mash* on Dave, expressed her frustration at the BBC’s decision on the Proms. “Instead of cancelling hundreds of talented musicians why not use them to commemorate her ... music can be a better memorial than silence,” she tweeted.

Official government advice on the national mourning period was that there was no obligation to suspend business and that public services would continue as usual.

Theatres have largely stayed open, in part because they were so heavily affected



Ben Stokes, the England cricket captain, and the batsman Ollie Pope pay tribute before the match against South Africa

by the pandemic, while comedy gigs have continued too. “We’ve all just spent two years shut out of theatres and it was miserable – now is the time for people to come together,” said a West End producer. “She would want the show to go on.” West End theatres are dimming their lights for two minutes each evening during the period of national

mourning, which is traditionally how the sector commemorates those who have died.

*Handbagged*, Moira Buffini’s hit 2013 comedy imagining the audiences between the Queen and Margaret Thatcher and their testy relationship, pushed back its opening night at the Kiln Theatre in north London last night.

Ceremonies including the National Television Awards, which were due to take place at Wembley Arena next weekend, and the Mercury Music Prize, have been postponed. Hackney Carnival, expected to attract tens of thousands to east London today, has been cancelled.

The BBC cancelled Radio 2’s Live in Leeds event

due to take place next weekend while Radio 1 cancelled its official charts show for only the third time since its launch in 1952.

In a bizarre moment on Friday, the Met Office announced it “will only be posting daily forecasts and warnings” during the time of national mourning, causing some to fear there would be no weather forecasts for the coming week.

The BBC’s former North America editor Jon Sopel replied: “I am totally bewildered ... why is it disrespectful to give us tomorrow’s weather?”

The Met Office later clarified it had only meant it was pausing “other non-operational content”.

Joe Little, managing editor of Majesty magazine, said it was a “no-win situation” for event organisers. “Organisers are damned if they do and damned if they don’t. Had everything gone ahead as planned, they would have been branded disrespectful, and when they come to postpone things and cancel things, then they are deemed to be overreacting.”

Economy braces for chill as the nation mourns, Business

# Bittersweet mourning for Caribbean nations

Dipesh Gadhler

The president of Barbados has described the Queen as a “treasured” icon who will “always hold a special place in our hearts” less than a year after the Caribbean nation became a republic.

Dame Sandra Mason, who replaced the late monarch as Barbados’s head of state last November, praised her “strength of character and concern for humanity” over her 70-year reign.

In a poignant televised address, Mason recalled the Queen’s numerous trips to the island, including a visit in 1975 during which she knighted the West Indian cricketer Sir Garfield Sobers. “Just under a year ago, Barbados took the decision to complete the course of independence by breaking constitutional ties with the British monarchy,” said Mason.

“Significant as that decision was it did not in the least diminish the friendship between our two nations or indeed with Buckingham Palace.”

The independence ceremony in Bridgetown, the capital, was attended by Charles, then Prince of Wales, who acknowledged “the

appalling atrocity of slavery” the nation had suffered.

Although Barbados has chosen to remain in the Commonwealth, its decision to remove the monarch as its head of state sparked concern that other Caribbean nations would soon follow suit.

In Jamaica the government ordered flags to be flown at half-mast for 12 days. Andrew Holness, the prime minister, described the Queen as “a global matriarch, who was a steady and constant force throughout many crises”.

However, the headline on the front page of the Gleaner newspaper said the Queen’s death marked the “end of an era” that will make “Jamaica’s break with monarchy easier”.

The Jamaican government announced plans last year to ask the UK for compensation for an estimated 600,000 Africans who were shipped to the island as slaves. Elsewhere in the world, Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako of Japan announced that they have gone into three days of mourning for the Queen. The couple, who both studied at Oxford University, were feeling “deep grief” and intend to travel to London for the Queen’s state funeral on September 19.



							
1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957

WINDSOR WALKABOUT



The Duchess of Sussex spoke to a new mother outside Windsor Castle yesterday when she, her husband Harry and the Prince and Princess of Wales spent time meeting wellwishers and looking at the flowers left by mourners



Roya Nikkhah

Emotional King wins over the country and reconciles his sons

Beaming in front of a roaring fire in the drawing room of her beloved Balmoral, having held her final audience with Boris Johnson and the first audience of Liz Truss, her 15th prime minister, Her Majesty was finally ready to sign off last week from a record-breaking reign.

A source who knew the Queen said: “I think she felt that with the change of prime minister she had finished tidying everything up, as she had been doing, and then simply let go.”

The Queen’s family rushed to her side on Thursday and the images we saw spoke volumes: Princes William, Andrew and Edward with the Countess of Wessex arriving at Balmoral together in the afternoon, followed by the Duke of Sussex that evening without his wife, after the Queen’s death had been announced.

That the intense family friction continued during a moment as seismic as the death of a monarch was impossible to ignore. A senior royal source said of the atmosphere at Balmoral last week that “tensions may have been there, but the focus was on the death of Her Majesty”. Harry was the first to leave on Friday morning.

As the new head of the firm, the King will now be more preoccupied with matters of state than family discord, but significantly, in the early moments of his reign, he has been publicly attempting a reconciliation.

On Friday, after speaking of his pride at passing on the titles of Prince and Prin-

cess of Wales to William and Catherine, he expressed his “love for Harry and Meghan as they continue to build their lives overseas”.

In another symbolic gesture for the world to see yesterday, as he signed official documents at the Accession Council at St James’s Palace, a silver ink pot that had been jointly gifted to him by William and Harry rested on his desk.

“He wants deep in his heart to reconcile his sons and be reconciled with Harry, but leading the nation is his priority,” a friend of the King said.

Charles would have hoped that his sons could put on a show of reconciliation before the Queen’s funeral. Yesterday the brothers, who are at their neighbouring homes on the Windsor estate, and their wives did just that and made headlines as they put on a united front to look at floral tributes to the Queen and talk at length to members of the public who had gathered there.

The first few days of the King’s reign have exceeded expectations. Given the long-held apprehension surrounding what kind of public reception he would receive and the boots he must fill, the early signs are promising.

From the moving, heartfelt tributes from wellwishers who gathered to greet and embrace him outside Buckingham Palace on Friday – some of whom spontaneously broke out into “God Save the King” – to his deeply personal and moving address to the nation and the



Charles arrives at Buckingham Palace yesterday after being proclaimed king

Commonwealth that evening, this has been a captivating start to the new reign.

John Bridcut, a documentary-maker who has worked with Charles for 15 years, said the King’s arrival at Buckingham Palace on Friday was “the moment”. He said it was “powerful and moving to see him get out of the car at the gates and spend ten minutes shaking what seemed like hundreds of hands in

the crowd, being kissed by one woman on the cheek, by another on his hand. And having a word for each of them. And the reaction of the crowd was so positive towards him.

“The King has a natural ease with crowds: he speaks and listens to people, and isn’t awkward about touching and being touched,” he added. “This is a key element of how the new reign will be

different: there is a spontaneity and naturalness which people will notice. Many people felt a personal connection with the Queen: I think they will feel it in spades with King Charles. It will be a more personal reign, without shedding the dignity of his position.”

A friend of the King said: “I think it’s surprising how immediately and naturally the role of king looks like a fit for him and the public response is chiming with that. So many people stopped properly looking at who he really is and what he does a long time ago, and defined him through the lens of his first marriage. This change from prince to king has given people the ability to re-appraise him.”

In his revealing nine-minute broadcast on Friday, Charles, 73, addressed head-on what so many of his critics and fans have long debated – would the campaigning prince be able to make the transition to stately monarch?

“My life will of course change as I take up my new responsibilities,” he said, acknowledging that he will not have the record-breaking reign of his mother in which to make his mark. He will do his very best to serve in “the remaining time God grants me”.

Charles’s tribute to his “beloved mother”, his “darling wife” Camilla and his cherished sons was deliberately filled with emotion.

“He is a man of high emotion and that was his considered way of conveying what kind of reign you can expect from

him – personal, connecting and emotional,” a friend said.

Bridcut agrees: “This was a broadcast unlike any previous royal one. Delivered impeccably, with great thespian timing, dignity, solemnity, flecks of humour and deep personal emotion. If there are further transatlantic thunderbolts, we know whose side the British public will be on. This reign has got off to an extraordinary start. People feel sad about the Queen, but they are already responding to the new reign. It’s part of the mystical magic of monarchy.”

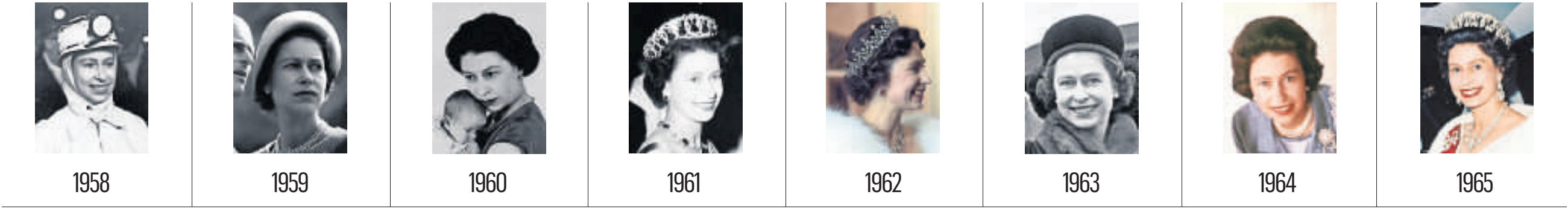
“I wondered how the King could handle the mix of personal grief, and meeting the people – would people welcome him when they were feeling distraught at the loss of the Queen? Now we know the answer. It is possible for both to happen at the same time, and Charles, with his personal gifts of character and sensitivity, is making that possibility a reality.”

The Queen’s funeral will be a unifying moment for the nation and the royal family, a chance to honour and commemorate arguably the greatest monarch of the modern age.

The new King is off to a good start and he will undoubtedly honour his pledge to “serve with loyalty, respect and love”. But as Charles acknowledged, both his family and his subjects have experienced a “loss beyond measure” and neither will see the likes again of the late, great Queen Elizabeth II.

@RoyaNikkhah





UNITED IN GRIEF



# Hard work and many acts of kindness were on Charles’s menu – but never a boiled egg

The real monarch is a man of much-mended shoes, cake in Tupperware boxes and boundless energy, his former press secretary says

**JULIAN PAYNE**



By the age of 73, it could be argued that the new King has already completed, as Prince of Wales, a career of duty and service of such length that he should be looking forward to a few years of well-earned rest. Yet he has just begun what is his greatest challenge. Not, as some have suggested, the role he has been “waiting for” all his life; rather the job he was ready to do when the time came.

Nothing has been left to chance: all the long-established succession plans will now be put into action. The royal household is organised along military lines, with plans agreed months in advance by a close-knit team of advisers and staff. Accordingly, the new King’s life will be

“His way of telling you off is very elegant”

meticulously plotted hour by hour, as it has been since he was a young man. It means that no matter where he is, the King’s life can continue with maximum efficiency and minimum disruption.

**RELENTLESS ROUTINE**

His household is run with precision by a small but dedicated team of staff, most of whom have been with him for decades: they are some of the most loyal, kind and funny people I have ever met.

The working day is pretty relentless. Beginning with the radio news headlines and a breakfast of seasonal fruit salad and seeds with tea. Despite rumours that the King is served a line of eggs to choose from every morning, I never saw a single boiled egg at breakfast in all the years I worked there.

Public engagements start shortly afterwards and run through until 5pm. The King doesn’t eat lunch; so, an early lesson I learnt when out on the road with him was to have a big breakfast or bring a few snack bars with you to keep you going.

In a typical year as Prince of Wales he

would complete about 500 engagements, some 200 jointly with the Duchess of Cornwall, visiting most counties in the UK along the way.

**OPEN WINDOWS**

The overseas tours would be similarly packed with a mix of nation and state work – laying wreaths and meeting national leaders – alongside events focused on his charitable interests. Throughout these visits, the thing that struck me was how interested the King is in everything and everyone he meets.

Because of this, his conversations almost always overran. He would start to walk away from a discussion before turning back for one last word, pointing his finger as he did so as if to suggest that person had just unlocked the knottiest of problems. It was often only the duchess who could move him along with a firm tug on the end of his suit jacket.

During these meetings I frequently saw people try to impress him with their intellectual prowess or social standing, to little effect. He doesn’t draw a distinction

between the well-heeled and those who have the toughest of lives. He’s interested in people, not position. In the end, as one colleague remarked to me, you have to remember that pretty much everyone is different from him, so he doesn’t have the same framework with which to judge people. I remember when we went to visit the set of the 25th Bond film, *No Time to Die*, I was looking forward to him meeting Daniel Craig and the rest of the cast. But as we approached, he kept stopping to speak to the set designers, the security guards and just about everyone else. Each person – star or not – was treated with exactly the same courtesy.

A day in the office is equally busy. Back-to-back 45-minute sessions – on his charity’s next project, a forthcoming tour or a discussion with Sir Clive Alderton, his principal private secretary, about matters of state. The vast array of topics covered in a single day reflects his polymath mindset and can be difficult to keep on top of. The one thing you were always advised to do was make copious notes in case you forgot the detail: he certainly never does. He has an incredibly sharp

“At 10pm he will head back to his desk”

memory. If you struggled, he’d politely remind you of the two or three things you’d missed in such a way that it took hours to work out that you’d been given an elegant telling-off. It made sure you did whatever it was you’d forgotten in double-quick time.

About 1pm there would usually be a break – not to eat but to get outside to walk. The King dislikes being inside for too long and always has the windows wide open. A meeting at Birkhall, his home in the Highlands, in the middle of winter was not for the faint-hearted. I can remember more than one occasion when I thought I might have actually got frost-bite while trying to write with a hand I could no longer feel. At Buckingham Palace he’ll walk in the gardens, but at Highgrove or Birkhall, on the Balmoral estate, he will go further afield and at a pace that people half his age struggle to match.

**CAKE AGAIN**

The King is a convener, connecting people and organisations in ways that open up possibilities and create solu-

## His Majesty will change tack but don’t expect him to cool on the climate crisis

**Ben Spencer and Roya Nikkhah**

The final page of the Ladybird book *Climate Change* provides a key insight into the King’s views on the environment. “If we look after the Earth, only then will the Earth be able to look after us.”

The book, which the then-prince co-wrote in 2017, was his response to a growing pessimism about the fight against climate change.

Charles has long been vocal on the environment. In 1970, aged 21, he gave a speech warning of the dangers of plastic and chemical pollution. “No one really wanted to know at the time,” he later said. “I think they thought I was completely dotty.”

That interest has persisted over five decades. Tony Juniper, the chairman of Natural England and a long-term advisor to Charles, said yesterday: “He’s been involved with discussions

about tropical rainforests and deforestation, sustainable agriculture and farming, water, food security, climate change, the plight of peatlands.

“In fact, I would go so far as to say he possibly is the most significant environmental figure in history, considering the breadth and depth that he’s gone into over so long,” he told the BBC *Today* programme.

Over the years Charles has become increasingly exasperated. Almost every speech he has given on the subject in recent years has included variations of the phrase “time is running out.”

The subject is expected to be a keen focus as he takes over at Buckingham Palace. Insiders say he will keep environmentalism in the spotlight, but will take a more nuanced approach than in the past.

At the Cop26 climate meeting in Glasgow in November he called for a “vast military-style

campaign” to fight climate change, urging world leaders to commit “trillions, not billions, of dollars”.

“The cost of inaction is far greater than the cost of prevention,” he said in his opening address. “I can only urge you, as the world’s decision-makers, to find practical ways of overcoming differences so we can all get down to work, together, to rescue this precious planet and save the threatened future of our young people.”

Charles’s impatience was the trigger for his book. A few years before Cop26 he had returned demoralised from another climate conference.

“He was frustrated with the lack of global progress in tackling climate change,” said one of his co-authors, Professor Emily Shuckburgh, a leading climate scientist at Cambridge University. “He said he would like to try to communicate the facts associated with climate change so people understood the risks and the dangers.”

The result – a 56-page illustrated primer on climate change – is the only Ladybird manual to have gone through peer review. Shuckburgh and Juniper, their fellow author, drafted and redrafted multiple versions with the future king. “We went

through every line, every image, sentence by sentence. It was absolutely not ghost-written.”

Charles’s views, Shuckburgh said, can be summarised by two key passages in the book.

The first concerns our



Royal nature-lover: Charles laying hedges at Sandringham

treatment of nature. “If the planet were a patient, we would have attended to her long ago,” it says. “We have the power to put her on life support, and we must surely start the emergency procedures without further procrastination.”

The second is about the state of the planet we will leave behind for future generations. “There is that sense of the legacy that we’re leaving,” she said. “He felt very, very strongly about a sense of responsibility to fellow humankind.”

His environmentalism is not just about climate change, though. He moved Duchy Home Farm at Highgrove to an organic farming system in 1985 and opposed the development of genetically-modified foods. In 1998 he wrote to then prime minister Tony Blair criticising GM scientists’ “increasingly frantic promotional efforts”.

In his new role, the King will be more cautious, say those who know him. “What





Lady Louise Windsor, left, and centre, with Peter Phillips and Zara Tindall — two of the Queen’s other grandchildren — Sophie, Countess of Wessex, and Prince Andrew at the gates of Balmoral

tions. Because of his unique position he doesn’t see divisions the way others do. He approaches problem-solving in a more instinctive, fluid way. Whether it was knife crime or ways to reduce the carbon footprint of the aviation industry, he would invite the best brains and the most experienced people in to listen to their ideas and advice. And the fascinating thing was that everyone was happy to help. I suspect it is a *modus operandi* that will continue as he takes on this new role.

The first real pause in the day will be at 5pm, when the King will stop for tea – a chance for him to recharge, often with the Queen Consort, over sandwiches and a piece of fruit cake. If there is anything left after the cake has been passed around, it will be placed in a Tupperware box to reappear the next day and the day after that.

Then it’s back to his desk to tackle the mountain of paperwork that, despite the best efforts of his heroic PAs, never seemed to get any smaller. Dinner is at 8.30pm sharp and then at 10pm he heads back to his desk, usually until well past midnight.

It wasn’t just the desk time that would last way beyond the usual nine-to-five working day. Public engagements extend well into the evening. I remember once, after a full day, the prince joined the Queen in hosting the annual diplomatic reception at Buckingham Palace. At the end we all rushed back to Clarence House, changed out of our white tie and drove to the airport, flying through the night to Washington to attend the funeral of President George HW Bush.

**HEAVY DUTIES**

We were met by the somewhat dishevelled British ambassador, who showed us to our rooms at about three o’clock in the morning. I went to bed; the prince went to work. Later that day he attended the four-hour funeral, where all the living former presidents of the United States greeted Charles warmly and chatted away as security details buzzed around.

After the service, the prince asked to meet all the embassy staff to thank them for their work before flying back to the UK, working all the way.

By the time we landed, I decided I would sneak home a little early. As I descended the stairs at Clarence House at about 5pm, I bumped into the prince, who was on his way to a reception at the Royal Academy and then a dinner in aid of the Prince’s Trust. Sheepishly, I inquired how he still had the energy to carry on. He said that he had been looking forward to both events and didn’t want to let them down. I wished him a good night and went home to collapse.

Twice a year all this work would be distilled into a new six-month diary. This masterpiece of planning was curated from a mixture of invitations from his 400-plus patronages and military affiliations alongside his nation and state work, such as the state opening of parliament, Remembrance Sunday and so on.

When I asked what drove him to get involved with so many issues when he could have done “nothing more than hunt, shoot and fish”, he said he felt it was important to use his position in the best way possible. He knew he would be accused of meddling but felt it would be better to be criticised “for doing something than nothing”. And so he was when the “black spider memos” – so-called because of his handwriting – were published in 2015, a cache of correspondence between the prince and government ministers. All it showed was that Charles was passing on information given to him by the public and organisations. To him, it would have been remiss not to share it. He certainly didn’t expect ministers to act on his every word but he did feel they might appreciate knowing what the public was saying to him. “If that’s meddling, then I am very proud of it,” he once said.

**DUCHESS’S WORD**

If giving others advice could be tricky, he found taking it surprisingly easy. Far from surrounding himself with “yes

men”, the King loves to test ideas and decisions on his core team of advisers along with a panoply of experts. If you wanted to present an idea, it was an absolute given that you should come with two or three credible independent experts who corroborated your view.

And it worked both ways: if you wanted to dissuade him from doing something, provided you could provide sound arguments he was more than willing to listen. His principal private secretary would always be critical in these endeavours and, if all else failed, you had the final court of appeal: the duchess. If she saw some merit in your plans, she might say: “Leave it with me,” which usually meant that within a couple of days the prince would acquiesce to the request.

Behind Charles’s public role also lies a thoughtfulness and generosity that is almost never seen. He would frequently write privately to people who had suffered bereavement in public or private tragedies and offer support to friends and acquaintances having a hard time. None of this was done to solicit public approval: when I suggested something might make a great story, he expressly forbade me to speak to the media.

**DINNER WITH ‘MAMA’**

Although it was often said that his relationship with his parents could sometimes appear stiff when they appeared together in public, in reality they were very close. He would speak to his “mama” and have dinner with her far more than people might have thought.

The King now begins his new role with the support of the Queen Consort at his side. For him, “moving up one” will be a perfectly natural transition. From the campaigning prince to the convening King – to be consulted, to advise and to warn, just as his mother did before him.

*Julian Payne will be on Times Radio Breakfast with Aasmah Mir and Stig Abell at 8am tomorrow*

# Secrets of the King’s speech: what he said – and what he meant

## Gabriel Pogrund

It was the King’s first public address as monarch and it may go down as his finest.

Sitting in the Blue Drawing Room of Buckingham Palace, Charles shared his personal grief, empathised with the public for their loss and renewed his “darling Mama” Queen Elizabeth’s promise of lifelong service.

After serving as heir apparent for 70 years, Charles had spent a lifetime preparing for the moment, and while his speech on Friday is unlikely to have been finalised before the day itself, its combination of gravity and humanity was widely seen to have met the moment. Here is our annotated version of some of the key passages.

“I speak to you today with feelings of profound sorrow. Throughout her life, Her Majesty the Queen – my beloved mother – was an inspiration and example to me and to all my family, and we owe her the most heartfelt debt any family can owe to their mother; for her love, affection, guidance, understanding and example.”

*Charles was with his mother at Balmoral at the time of her death. His speech was deeply personal and delivered at a time of grief. He opened by paying tribute to the Queen and her “love” and “affection” – conveying that theirs was a close bond as well as a formal constitutional relationship.*

“Queen Elizabeth’s was a life well lived; a promise with destiny kept, and she is mourned most deeply in her passing. That promise of lifelong service I renew to you all today.”

*The King made a brief reference to his mother’s 21st birthday speech, delivered on April 21, 1947 from Cape Town, in which the heir presumptive promised: “I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service.” Three quarters of a century later, her son declared that covenant fulfilled and made a new one with the nation. His reference to “lifelong service” affirmed his commitment to the simple, central principle of monarchy: that, like his mother, he will reign for the rest of his life.*

“Alongside the personal grief that all my family are feeling, we also share with so many of you in the United Kingdom, in all the countries where the Queen

was head of state, in the Commonwealth and across the world, a deep sense of gratitude for the more than 70 years in which my mother, as Queen, served the people of so many nations.”

*This was the first of three mentions of the Commonwealth. It indicated that Charles would prioritise not only the nations of the United Kingdom, but the family of nations to which Queen Elizabeth remained deeply committed as it evolved to a far looser association.*

“She made sacrifices for duty. Her dedication and devotion as sovereign never wavered, through times of change and progress, through times of joy and celebration, and through times of sadness and loss. In her life of service we saw that abiding love of tradition, together with that fearless embrace of progress, which make us great as nations.

“The affection, admiration and respect she inspired became the hallmark of her reign. And, as every member of my family can testify, she combined these qualities with warmth, humour and an unerring ability always to see the best in people. I pay tribute to my mother’s memory and I honour her life of service. I know that her death brings great sadness to so many of you and I share that sense of

loss, beyond measure, with you all.”

*Charles appeared emotional as he embraced a contemporary facet of his 1,200-year-old role: that of comforter-in-chief. He made little distinction between the nation’s loss and his own. Rather than thanking the public for their sympathy or solidarity, he said something quite different: he was grieving alongside his subjects.*

“As the Queen herself did with such unswerving devotion, I too now solemnly pledge myself, throughout the remaining time God grants me, to uphold the constitutional principles at the heart of our nation.”

*Charles has received both praise and criticism for advocating for the causes close to his heart. Having acceded to the throne, he affirmed that he would cease such activity and preserve the political neutrality of the monarch, a tradition his mother observed.*

“My life will, of course, change as I take up my new responsibilities. It will no longer be possible for me to give so much of my time and energies to the charities and issues for which I care so deeply. But I know this important work will go on in the trusted hands of others.”

*As heir, he dedicated substantial time and resources*



Charles has affirmed his commitment to the central principle of monarchy: he will reign for the rest of his life

to his philanthropic work. He also built up a commercial empire to fund his various charities. The King said these projects would remain operational. He stopped short of saying he would cease to be involved, but suggested that trusted confidants would take on increasing responsibility.

“This is also a time of change for my family.”

*The King named William the new Prince of Wales – a role held by heirs to the throne for centuries and a vital part of the succession process. He also confirmed that William had inherited the Duchy of Cornwall, a private royal estate of 128,000 acres. Charles separately named William’s wife, Kate, the Princess of Wales, the title used by Diana. It was not used by Camilla, Queen Consort, even though she was entitled to do so. The King referred to Camilla tenderly as “my darling wife”.*

“I want also to express my love for Harry and Meghan as they continue to build their lives overseas.”

*This was a bold offer of reconciliation to the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, with whom relations have been severely strained. This could mark a new chapter in Charles’s relationship with Harry.*

“And to my darling Mama, as you begin your last great journey to join my dear late Papa, I want simply to say this: thank-you. Thank-you for your love and devotion to our family and to the family of nations you have served so diligently all these years.”

*The King’s relationship with his mother was marked by formality: in 1953, after the Queen had been away for months on her Commonwealth tour, Charles, then five, and his mother were reunited – and greeted each other with only a handshake. In later years, Charles expressed his reservations about the style of parenting he received. Yet in his address, he spoke about his mother in warm and intimate terms, referring to her as his “Darling Mama”.*

“May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest.”

*The final flourish is borrowed from Shakespeare. In Hamlet, Horatio utters a version of these words to the eponymous prince of Denmark. Perhaps by coincidence, the phrase Charles used – beginning with “may”, rather than “and” – appears in Song for Athene, by John Tavener, which was played at Diana’s funeral in 1997.*

you won’t see is [him] rushing out of the stalls on this,” said a friend. “The King, his advisers and the government will be very cautious in this early period of the new reign. But the urgency and importance of the issues haven’t gone away for him. He will just address the issues differently going forwards.”

As the King acknowledged in his first address to the nation and Commonwealth: “It will no longer be possible for me to give so much of my time and energies to the charities and issues for which I care so deeply.”

A source who has worked with Charles says that as King, the “guard rails will be up” on his environmental campaigning: “I think he will make far fewer speeches and his speeches will be written very differently. As Prince of Wales he had far more leeway to say whatever he wanted. As King, he’ll still show leadership on the issue and ask the questions, but they will be the questions that the

government wants to ask, that are right for Britain.”

Craig Bennett, who between 2007 and 2010 ran the Prince of Wales’s Corporate Leaders Group, said Charles has long used a variety of strategies to influence change. “He’s always had the ability to bring people together and enable people to have the conversations that need to happen. In the Noughties we were trying to convene business leaders to build support for bold international action on climate – and to make it clear there was a strong constituency within the business community for that action.”

It is a strategy he continued. In 2020 at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, Charles launched the Sustainable Markets Initiative, which aimed to persuade business leaders to invest in environmentally friendly operations. Since then more than 500 CEOs have pledged

their support for the initiative’s Terra Carta, or Earth Charter.

Bennett, who is now the chief executive of the Wildlife Trusts charity of which Charles is patron, said the new King’s focus on the issue is founded on an extraordinary depth of knowledge. “Every time I meet him he’s got a question for me, or he tells me something that is new or I hadn’t heard of. He is so on top of everything. What’s astonishing is just how deep his passion for this agenda goes – he was passionate about it well before it was trendy to be so.”

Bennett added: “He’s got a different role now. So politically the way he’ll engage around this will change. He knows that in his new role he won’t be involved in the intricacy of policy issues. But it’s important to remember that the Queen was also very keen on this agenda and she expressed it in a different way.”

He pointed to the Platinum Jubilee celebration this summer, which was marked by a series of conservation initiatives including the Queen’s Green Canopy, in which people across the country were encouraged to plant trees.

At Cop26 a message was played from the Queen in which she said: “None of us underestimates the challenge ahead, but history has shown that when nations come together in common cause there is always room for hope.”

Climate change, scientists say, is reaching a tipping point and action is urgently needed. “The next 15 years or so could not be more important,” Bennett said.

“It will be make or break for the climate crisis and the ecological crisis. And it just so happens that we’re going to have a monarch during that time who has devoted his life’s passion to these issues – and that is extraordinary.”

# Face of postage stamps to change sooner than new coins are minted

## Liam Kelly

Arts Correspondent

The changes most people will notice will not be confined to a few words in the national anthem. From coins and stamps to police helmets and even the brass buttons of naval officers, the reign of a new monarch will show.

Some changes took effect immediately: Her Majesty’s Government became His Majesty’s in an instant, likewise Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs.

Her Majesty’s Ships and Her Majesty’s Submarines, the titles afforded to Royal Navy vessels, have also changed. The abbreviation HMS is generally used, except in court papers, when it is written in full. It took until

yesterday for Ministry of Defence computer systems to reflect the change.

Top brass had to scramble to know what to do about the finer details of their dress. After the Queen acceded to the throne in 1952, she chose to change the crown on naval insignia from the Tudor Crown to that of St Edward’s Crown. The insignia is seen on hats and uniforms, as well as officers’ buttons. If the King chooses to revert to the Tudor Crown it will require thousands of new patches stitched and buttons struck.

Thousands of police officers, including the 34,000 serving with the Metropolitan Police, have badges with the Queen’s royal cipher of EIIR on their headgear. It is understood that forces are

not preparing changes until asked by the Cabinet Office.

Despite the continued decline of cash, perhaps the most visible change will be to coins and banknotes. The Queen had five versions of her profile struck on the nation’s coins, with the most recent being designed by the Royal Mint’s Jody Clarke in 2015. The Mint, which produces coins, and the Bank of England, which commissions polymer banknotes, refused to give a timeline as to when the new money will enter circulation.

Precedent suggests that cash bearing her likeness will continue to circulate for decades, as was the case with George VI until decimalisation in 1971.

The issue of money is not

just a British one. The Queen’s likeness appears on 33 currencies – a Guinness world record – including Australia, Belize and Canada.

Postage stamps, which are still produced by Royal Mail even though the company was privatised in 2013, will soon bear Charles’s profile. It will take months, however, before a huge stockpile of existing stamps are used.

Any new postboxes erected will feature Charles’s CIIR cypher. They will be rare, however. Of the 115,000 across the country, more than 60 per cent bear Elizabeth’s cypher, with George V the next most frequent with 15 per cent. The number of new postboxes installed each year is only in the hundreds.

@IamLiamKelly



QUEEN ELIZABETH II



Millions will line the streets to

ELIZABETH’S FINAL JOURNEY

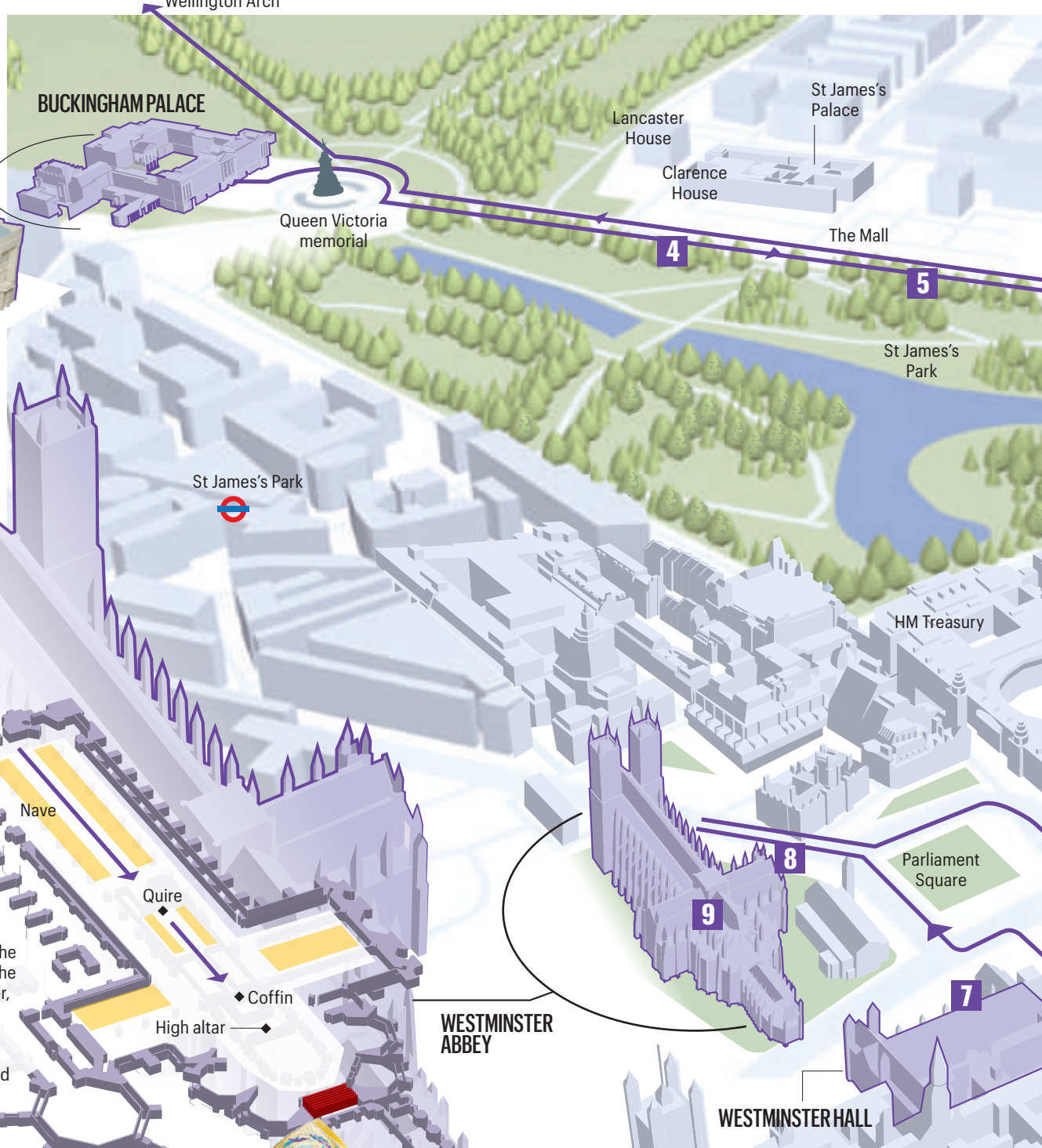
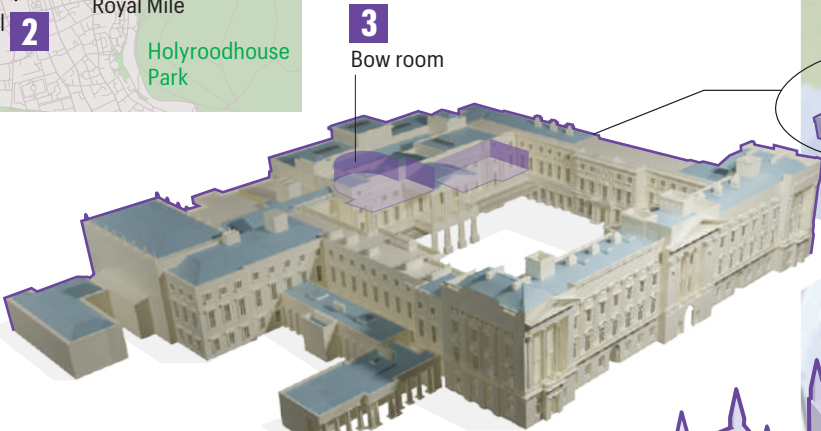
- 1** **TODAY**

At 10am the Queen’s coffin will be taken by road from Balmoral Castle to the Palace of Holyroodhouse, arriving in Edinburgh at 4pm
- 2** **MONDAY**

At 2.35pm the coffin will be taken in procession along the Royal Mile to St Giles’ Cathedral, where it will lie at rest until Tuesday
- 3** **TUESDAY**

The coffin will be taken by hearse from St Giles’ Cathedral to Edinburgh airport from where it will be flown to RAF Northolt. It will then be driven to Buckingham Palace and placed in the Bow Room
- 4** **WEDNESDAY**

At 2.22pm, the coffin will be taken in procession on a gun carriage of the King’s Troop Royal Horse Artillery from Buckingham Palace to the Houses of Parliament



Roya Nikkhah, Tim Shipman and Caroline Wheeler detail the events of each day before the Queen’s funeral a week tomorrow

Over the next eight days the end of the second Elizabethan age will be marked with solemn ceremonial spectacle as the nation and the world mourn the longest-serving British monarch in history and pay tribute to her remarkable 70-year reign. As the new King mourns his mother and finally realises his destiny, the first signs of how his reign will differ from hers will start to appear, as the King and Queen Consort embark on a tour to all corners of the United Kingdom. At the beginning of a period of national mourning for the UK, a vast diplomatic assembly will gather in London on a scale not seen since the state funeral of Winston Churchill in 1965.

**TODAY**  
Having died at her beloved Balmoral Castle, where her family often said she was at her happiest, the Queen has lain in rest privately for two days in an oak coffin covered with the Royal Standard for Scotland and with a wreath of flowers laid on top. At 10am gamekeepers will carry her coffin to a hearse, which will travel via Aberdeen to the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh. Thousands of people are expected to line the route. A guard of honour formed by the Royal Regiment of Scotland will greet her with a royal salute.

The business of becoming monarch will continue apace. King Charles will be proclaimed in Edinburgh, Cardiff and



Belfast and around the Commonwealth. This morning he will meet Baroness Scotland, secretary-general of the Commonwealth, and will host a reception for the London-based high commissioners of the Commonwealth countries of which he is King, including Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Belize and St Lucia.

This afternoon at Buckingham Palace the King will also meet the Dean of Windsor, who will conduct the committal service at St George’s Chapel. This is set to be one of the most moving elements of the funeral in eight days’ time, as the Queen is lowered into the royal vault to rest alongside her beloved husband of 73 years, the Duke of Edinburgh.

**TOMORROW**  
At the start of his brief reign, Edward VIII wrote of the days between the death and funeral of his father, King George V: “I had the uneasy sensation of being left alone on a vast stage.” Unlike his great-uncle, who could not bear to reign without the woman he loved, Charles will have the Queen Consort by his side. She

will join him in Scotland, at the start of his tour of the UK, and will accompany him throughout. Here is a first sign that Charles will deviate from his mother’s style of rule. She did not undertake a national tour upon her accession, but courtiers say Charles is eager to meet people from all corners of the country as their new King.

Motions of condolence will be heard at the Palace of Westminster before the King travels to the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the monarch’s official residence north of the border. There, he will inspect a guard of honour, before taking part in the ceremony of the keys, in which the lord provost of Edinburgh hands the keys of the city to the monarch. The King and Queen Consort will also attend a service at St Giles’ Cathedral, and Charles will meet the first minister, Nicola Sturgeon. A motion of condolence will be heard at the Scottish parliament, followed by a reception.

King Charles will escort the coffin to St Giles’ Cathedral for a service attended by members of the royal family and dignitaries. The crown of Scotland will be placed

on the coffin and for 24 hours people will be able to pay their respects while a vigil is maintained by the Royal Company of Archers. The King and other royals will mount a vigil at 7.20pm.

**TUESDAY**  
King Charles and the Queen Consort will travel from Edinburgh to Belfast, where they will be welcomed at Hillsborough Castle, the official residence of the monarch in Northern Ireland. The King will hold audiences with the first minister and the Speaker of the Northern Ireland assembly, before a reception at Hillsborough. The reception is expected to include community heroes and public sector workers to reflect, as a courtier has said, that “from day one it is about the people rather than just the leaders being part of the new monarchy”. A service at St Anne’s Cathedral in Belfast will end the day, before Charles and Camilla return to London.

In Edinburgh, after 4.30pm prayers at St Giles’ Cathedral, the Queen’s coffin will be carried in procession to the

airport, where it will be placed on a flight to RAF Northolt, leaving at 6pm. The Princess Royal will accompany the coffin on the flight, which arrives at 6.55pm. It will travel in the state hearse to Buckingham Palace, where the Queen’s Company, 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, will place it on trestles in the Bow Room.

Throughout the day, as the nation waits for the King’s return to the capital, rehearsals will be taking place for the coffin’s procession from the palace to the lying in state at Westminster Hall.

The King and Queen Consort will witness the arrival of the coffin, along with other members of the royal family. Dame Sarah Mullally, Dean of the Chapels Royal, will conduct prayers. A rota of chaplains to the King, who were appointed by the Queen, will keep watch over the coffin.

**WEDNESDAY**  
A solemn day as the Queen’s coffin, draped in the Royal Standard, moves from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Hall to lie in state for five days. In 2002

about 200,000 people filed past the Queen Mother’s coffin, and in 1952 there were four-mile queues as 300,000 mourners paid their respects to her husband, George VI. Buckingham Palace is expecting half a million people to attend the lying in state, but it is likely to be many more.

In the early afternoon the coffin will be adorned with the Imperial State Crown, worn by the young Elizabeth after her coronation in 1953, with the sceptre and orb and flowers gathered from royal gardens. At 2.22pm Big Ben will begin to toll as the coffin, borne on a gun carriage by the King’s Troop Royal Horse Artillery, is carried in procession up the Mall, along Whitehall and into Parliament Square, a route expected to be lined with about a million mourners. The King and his family will walk behind the coffin.

The coffin will arrive at the north door of Westminster Hall at 3pm, where a military bearer party will carry it to the catafalque, which will be draped in purple, to the sound of psalms. A service of prayer will be led by the Archbishop of Canterbury, attended by members of the royal

That coronation was a three-hour, £31 million effort to distract the nation. This one may at least be cheaper

**Nicholas Hellen**  
Not yet three years old, Princess Anne was judged too young to attend her mother’s coronation. Prince Charles, however, a sturdy boy of four, was present in Westminster Abbey on June 2, 1953, having received a hand-painted children’s invitation, his hair combed into a severe side-parting.

The silence was absolute when the Archbishop of Canterbury took the crown of St Edward from its cushion, raised it high and solemnly brought its great weight of nearly 5lb down on the Queen’s head. The cry of

“God Save the Queen” rose up and fanfares of trumpets sounded from the galleries above the choir.

According to an account in The Times: “Prince Charles, who had watched the crowning ceremony with rapt attention, turned with eager curiosity first to his now coroneted aunt, Princess Margaret, and then to his grandmother, Queen Elizabeth [the Queen Mother], apparently plying them with questions.”

The service took three hours and photographs show the prince beginning to look distinctly bored. After communion, Charles was

“taken silently and unobtrusively from the church”.

So began Charles’s 70-year apprenticeship for the role of monarch – and, in the long decades to come, his questions did not abate. At one stage he appeared even to query the monarch’s role as supreme governor of the Church of England, musing in 1994 he would be defender of faith rather than Defender of the [Anglican] Faith.

Now that the time for his coronation has arrived, the country is much changed from an era when some basic foods were still rationed and there seemed to be nothing

TOPICAL PRESS AGENCY/GETTY IMAGES



Charles, flanked by Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret, at his mother’s coronation in 1953

odd about asking a choir of schoolboys to acclaim the new Queen in Latin.

Officially, planning for a coronation does not begin until the point of accession, but it is understood that work has been under way for some time under the discreet guidance of the golden orb committee. Its members include the Duke of Norfolk, the earl marshal, whose family have organised major state occasions since 1386, and Sir Stephen Lamport, a former private secretary to the Prince of Wales, now vice-lord-lieutenant of Surrey.

At a distance of seven decades, the splendour of the

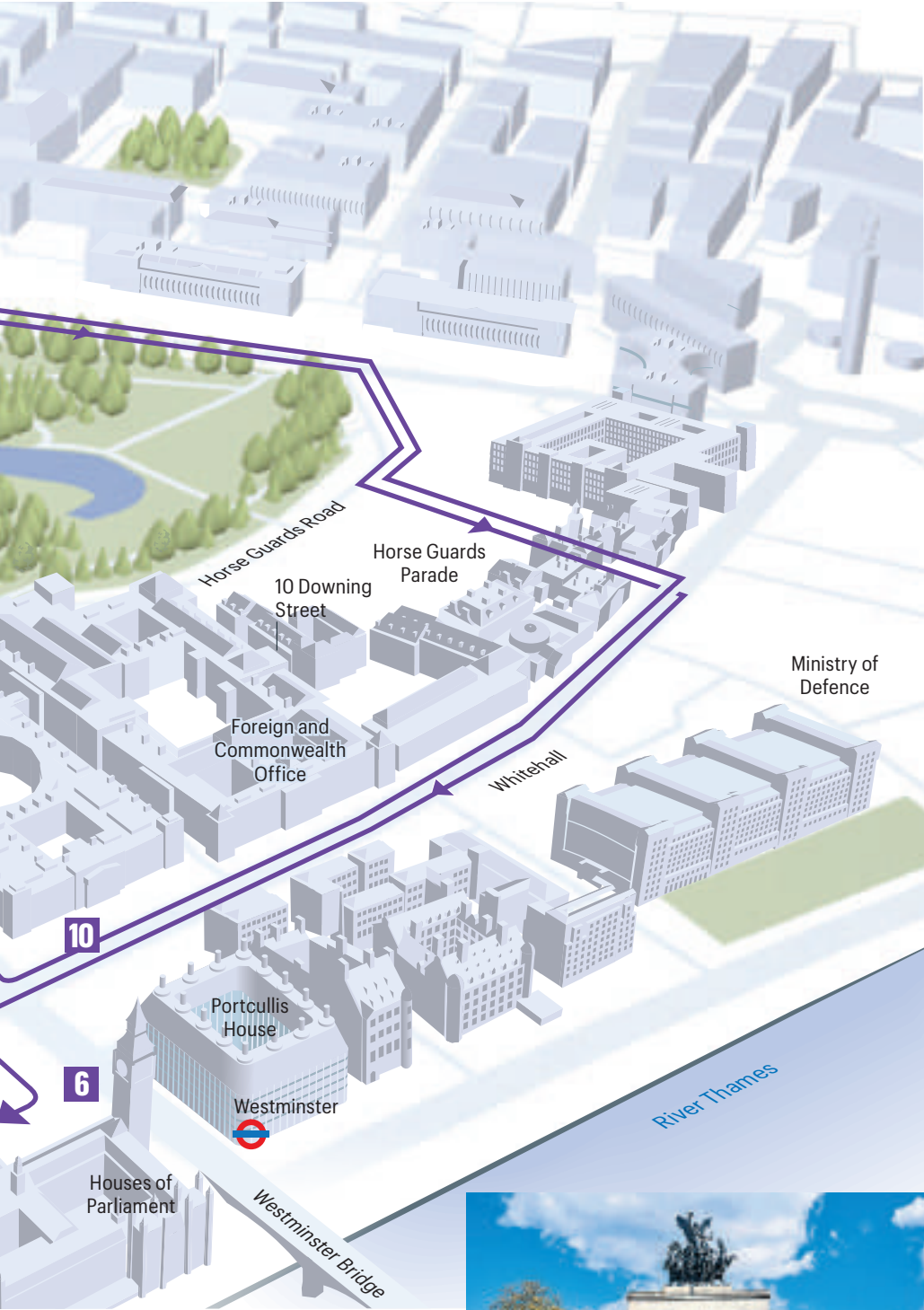




# salute end of Elizabethan era

**5** The route will be lined with about a million mourners. The King and his family will walk behind the coffin

**6** The Queen's coffin will lie in state for five days. About 500,000 members of the public are expected to attend



**9** Following the state funeral, the coffin will be taken again in procession from Westminster Abbey to Wellington Arch



family who do not join the procession. At the end of the service the King and Queen Consort, along with other members of the royal family, will return to Buckingham Palace by car. The King's bodyguards – the Gentlemen at Arms, the Yeomen of the Guard and the Royal Company of Archers – will begin a constant vigil around the coffin. From mid-afternoon Westminster Hall will be open around the clock to allow the public to see the Queen's coffin, closing only for a couple of hours at night for cleaning.

## THURSDAY

### The King and his siblings will hold a vigil at coffin

It will be a day of reflection for the King as he prepares to continue his national tour in Wales. Charles may mourn in private at Highgrove, his Gloucestershire home, before visiting Westminster Hall to see his mother lying in state.

**FRIDAY**  
The King returns to Cardiff for a service at Llandaff Cathedral and a motion of condolence at the Senedd. He will hold audi-

Queen's coronation smacks of a calculated Ruritanian distraction from the drabness of postwar Britain. There was stained glass and ceremony, but the pomp teetered on the edge of flummery. Charles has in mind a shorter, less expensive event more representative of a more diverse society, without such a long delay from the death of the previous monarch. It could take place next spring or summer. The government funds a coronation whereas the costs of a royal wedding are met by the family, with the taxpayer meeting any security costs. It took 14 months to

prepare for the Queen's coronation and it cost £1.57 million (the equivalent of £31 million now). Almost 40,000 troops and reservists took part in the parade, 168 jet fighters in the flypast, and more than 8,000 guests packed Westminster Abbey in conditions that would not be tolerated under today's health and safety rules. An estimated three million spectators lined the streets, with the return route from the Abbey to the Palace extended over five miles. In the evening, crowds shouted "We want the Queen". The royal party responded by making five appearances on

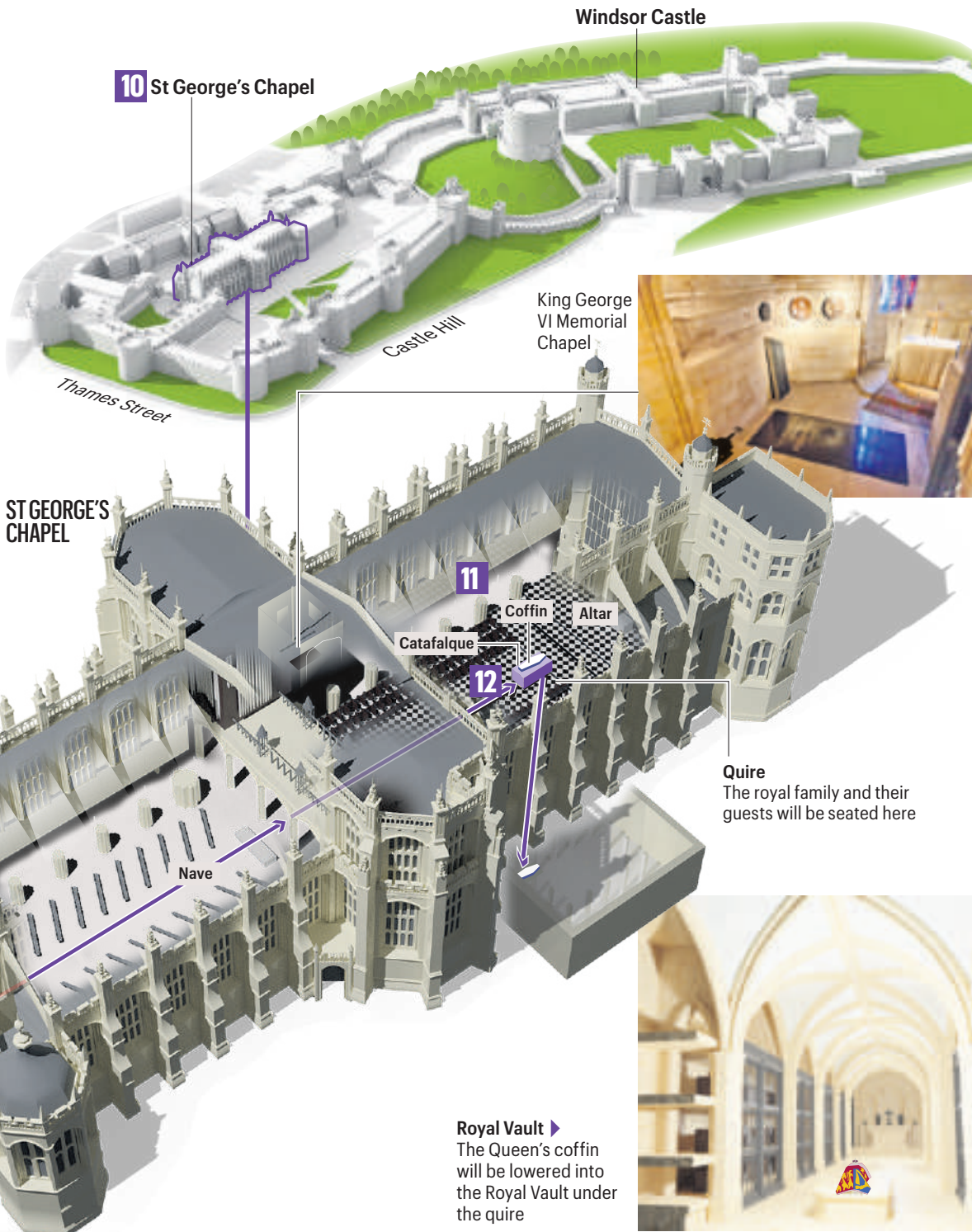
the balcony at Buckingham Palace, the last at 11.30pm. It was a daring decision to allow television cameras in, or, as The Times put it: "For the first time in perhaps a thousand years, the Sovereign was crowned in the sight of many thousands of the humblest of her subjects. By penetrating at last, even vicariously, into the solemn mysteriousness of the Abbey scene, multitudes who had hoped merely to see for themselves the splendour and the pomp found themselves comprehending for the first time the true nature of the occasion." Even so, the cameras were

## WINDSOR

**10** The coffin will be transferred into the state hearse, to be driven to Windsor. The hearse will travel in procession to St George's Chapel, via the Long Walk

**11** The service begins at St George's Chapel, where ten British monarchs are buried. It will be the final televised stage of proceedings. A lament will be played by a lone piper, as the Queen's coffin is lowered into the Royal Vault

**12** The King and his closest family will return to St George's Chapel for a private family burial service. The coffins of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will be interred together in the King George VI Memorial Chapel, alongside the Queen's mother and father, and the ashes of her sister, Princess Margaret



Duke of Edinburgh's funeral, April 17, 2021



Westminster Hall, which will close at 8.30am. At 9am, Big Ben will strike clearly before the bell's hammer is covered with a thick leather pad to muffle its strikes for the rest of the day.

At 10.30am the coffin will be moved on to the state gun carriage, used for the funerals of Diana, Princess of Wales and the Queen Mother. Hundreds of thousands of mourners will line the streets to see the Queen's final journey begin as the King and senior members of the royal family follow the funeral procession from Westminster Hall to the abbey. There, at 11am, the nation will fall silent. The televised state funeral will be led by the Dean of Westminster, with the Archbishop of Canterbury. About 2,000 guests will be inside the abbey and large screens in the capital's royal parks and across the country will broadcast what is expected to be one of the most-watched live events in history. After the one-hour service, the Last Post and Reveille will echo around the abbey. The Queen's coffin will be placed back on the state gun carriage and the royal funeral procession will move through

## She chose every last detail of the funeral herself

Parliament Square, Whitehall, Constitution Hill and the Mall, to arrive at Wellington Arch at 1pm. From there the coffin will travel to Windsor, where the Queen spent much of her final years. Thousands are expected to line the streets as members of the royal family follow the hearse on foot and in carriages to St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle via the Long Walk. The committal service conducted by the Dean of Windsor begins at 4pm at the chapel, where ten British monarchs are buried. It will be the final televised stage and before the last hymn, the Imperial State Crown, sceptre and orb will be removed from the coffin by the crown jeweller. At the end of the service, a lament will be played by a lone piper as the Queen's coffin is lowered into the royal vault. At 7pm, the King and only his closest family will return to St George's Chapel for a private family burial service. As the late Queen did for her father, King Charles will scatter earth upon his mother's coffin. @RoyaNikkhah



The Queen's coronation was the first to be televised and an estimated three million people lined the streets

not allowed to record the anointing and the blessing: daylight could not be allowed to spoil the deepest magic. As the male consort of the sovereign, Prince Philip played a walk-on part, sitting between the Duke of Gloucester and the Duke of Kent, and was required to perform homage to her. Camilla will be spared such indignities and is expected to be crowned alongside Charles, wearing the platinum and diamond crown made for the Queen Mother. It includes the Koh-i-Noor diamond, acquired by the East India Company in controversial circumstances;

a campaign has sprung up in India urging Britain to return it. The couple are expected to travel in the gold state coach, last used for the Golden Jubilee in 2002. It has been reported that Charles has sought inspiration from the 1937 coronation of his grandfather, George VI – the last time a Queen Consort was crowned. The reality of Britain's diminished status in the world will be reflected, notwithstanding the international outpouring of grief and respect at the Queen's death. She was crowned the queen of seven countries: the

United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, Ceylon (now Sri Lanka), New Zealand, Pakistan and South Africa. The numbers grew as British colonies and dependencies became Commonwealth realms, but her position with them was largely ceremonial. At the peak, between 1983 and 1987, she was queen of 18 countries. Fiji, Mauritius and Barbados have since become republics. Now the integrity of the UK itself is in jeopardy. A burden of expectation will hang over the power of the coronation to renew frayed bonds. @NicholasHellen





1990



1991



1992



1993



1994



1995



1996



1997

# Sophie’s face lit up as she spoke about the Queen

*Christina Lamb* spent time in South Sudan with the Countess of Wessex and learnt her bond with the monarch she called ‘mama’ was based on shared interests



As the Queen’s children and grandsons rushed to Balmoral on Thursday through driving rain to say their last farewells, among them were only two spouses.

One was Camilla, now the Queen Consort. The other, her face stricken, was Sophie, the Countess of Wessex.

In recent years, Prince Edward’s wife formed such a bond with the monarch that she was widely known as “the Queen’s favourite”. When visiting Balmoral or Sandringham, she was often spotted in the coveted spot in the back seat of the Rolls-Royce with the Queen on Sunday morning rides to church, and Buckingham Palace posted a rare birthday tweet on her 57th birthday in January.

The fondness was mutual – in a speech in October 2019 the countess referred to the Queen affectionately as “mama”.

I spent a few days with Sophie Wessex in South Sudan two years ago, just before the pandemic stopped travel, as she visited the war-torn country as part of her work campaigning against sexual violence in conflict. We’d had a tough day visiting survivors of harrowing attacks in a hot, smelly and overcrowded camp but her face lit up when I asked her about the Queen and if it was true that they had a particularly close relationship.

“I think so,” she smiled. “I hope so.”

The Queen always wanted to hear about her trips on her return, she said. “She is so interested, particularly in Commonwealth countries. I don’t know how many countries she has visited. Every time I come back from a place she has been there and knows so much.”

The pair bonded over their interest in military history, apparently spending hours poring over ancient documents in the Royal Archives at Windsor Castle.

What was also clear was their shared sense of dedication and duty. In recent years as an increasingly frail Queen pared down her schedule, Prince Andrew was cast out in disgrace and Prince Harry left with Meghan for California, Sophie emerged as one of Buckingham Palace’s safest pairs of hands. Some courtiers refer to her as “the royals’ secret weapon”.

Last year Sophie was the first member of the royal family to speak publicly about the Duke of Edinburgh’s death, which experts interpreted as an indication of the trust placed in her by the Queen.

The mutual warmth of their relationship was helped by proximity. She and Prince Edward live just over ten miles away from Windsor Castle at Bagshot Park, the country estate built for Queen Victoria’s third son Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, which was given them on their marriage by the Queen, who also paid its running costs.

Sophie and their two children were regular visitors to Windsor. Her eldest,

Lady Louise Windsor, now 18, learnt to drive carriages on the estate with her grandfather Prince Philip and paid tribute to him earlier this year at the Royal Windsor Horse Show’s Platinum Jubilee celebrations by driving his carriage in front of a misty-eyed Queen.

During the pandemic, when restrictions were partially lifted, Sophie went for regular walks with the Queen in Windsor Great Park, particularly after Prince Philip’s death when she became her “rock”.

Earlier this year the Queen appointed her to what had been one of Prince Philip’s military roles – colonel-in-chief of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. And yet once upon a time, she and Prince Edward were the black sheep of the family. When she married the queen’s youngest child in 1999, Sophie Rhys-Jones was the first working woman from a middle-class family to marry into the Firm. Her mother was a secretary and father an executive in a tyre company, and she had been working for Capital Radio when she met Prince Edward. She

OWEN HUMPHREYS/PA



Sophie views the messages and floral tributes at Balmoral yesterday

then went on to join a PR firm where she ran campaigns for Mr Blobby and Thomas the Tank Engine.

Her new husband Edward had previously raised eyebrows when he quit the Marines to pursue a career in TV, starting out by making the much-derided *It’s a Royal Knockout* in 1987. The medieval-themed one-off game show involved teams led by Prince Edward, Princess Anne, Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson, the Duchess of York, captaining celebrities including Gary Lineker, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa and Meat Loaf. It raised a considerable amount for charity and hauled in huge ratings but was described as an undignified embarrassment.

Sophie’s time trying to juggle work with a royal marriage was brought to an ignominious end two years after the wedding, when she was duped by the News of the World reporter Mazher Mahmood, known as the Fake Sheikh. Believing him to be a potential client for her PR company, she was caught on tape offering indiscretions about the prime minister of the time, whom she derided as “President Blair”, and his wife Cherie (“horrid, absolutely horrid”) while referring to the Queen as an “old dear”.

About the same time, Prince Edward’s TV production company broke the Palace’s own privacy rules by filming his nephew William while he was at university.

For some years the couple disappeared from view, eventually deciding that careers were incompatible with royalty. Edward’s TV production company and Sophie’s PR firm were wound up and they became full-time royals.

Sophie admitted to me it was a struggle and that she did not enjoy royal duties at first, wanting to take over events she attended, “not just be the icing on the cake” as she put it. But over time, helped by the Queen’s guidance, she had learnt to “manage expectations”.

“Certainly I missed it to begin with,” she sighed, talking about giving up her career. “Certainly, it took me a little while to find my feet. But I’ve met some incredible people during the time I’ve been doing royal duties. I’ve learnt a huge amount about an awful lot and now I’ve got this new area [campaigning against war rape] which is enormously challenging and quite an emotional rollercoaster, but I find hugely rewarding.”

When we got back from the trip I went to Bagshot for tea where I asked her what she saw as the role of a royal family in the 21st century?

“Gosh!” she replied. “I would hope the consistency of us being there, the Queen being such an amazing monarch as she has been for so long, I hope we carry on being able to do the same.”

@ChristinaLamb

# Andrew’s new job: wrangler of the corgis?

Glen Keogh

Susan; Sugar; Buzz; Brush; Geordie; Smokie; Dash; Dime; Disco and Dipper. The words are unlikely to conjure images of pageantry, pomp and ceremony.

However, they are as synonymous with British royalty as the crown or throne, as some of the names given to corgis owned by the Queen over eight decades.

Over her lifetime she owned more than 30, all descended from her first, Susan, an 18th birthday gift from her father George VI.

The Queen was also credited with introducing the dorgi, following an unscheduled encounter between her corgi Tiny and Princess Margaret’s dachshund Pipkin. She was so enamoured with the resultant pups that she decided to breed more over the years.

It is not known where the three dogs thought to have been owned by the Queen when she died will now live. The King and Queen Consort already own two Jack Russells, and it is understood the King, like the late Duke of Edinburgh, is not particularly enamoured with the corgi breed.

The remaining dogs include her elderly dorgi, Candy, and Muick, a corgi given to her by the Duke of York and princesses Beatrice and Eugenie to keep her company while Prince Philip was in hospital. Prince Andrew gave her another corgi puppy in June on what would have been Philip’s 100th birthday.

One theory is that they may now be returned to Prince Andrew at the Royal Lodge in Windsor. “It would seem most logical that they go back to Andrew,” Ingrid Seward, a royal biographer, said. “He would be very happy to look after them. Let’s face it, he hasn’t got anything else to do. I think he would be quite honoured to do that.”

The Queen’s love affair with corgis began at the age of seven when she asked her father for one, having become envious of a friend who had a pet. She went on to breed dogs with a variety of names, among them Sherry, Mask, Windsor Loyal Subject, Flora, Mint and Quiz.

At any one time, the Queen had up to ten dogs, often taking them to engagements around the world.

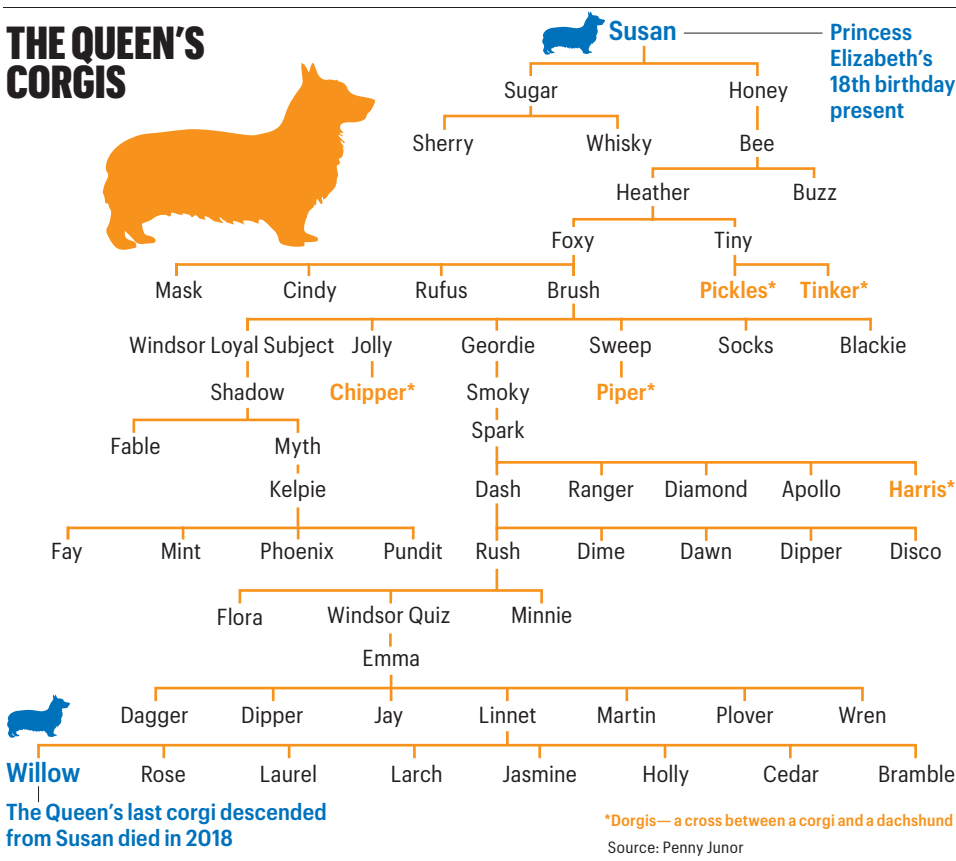
Such was the affection she felt for them, they slept in their own corgi room, in wicker baskets lined with cushions and were reportedly fed fresh rabbit and beef cooked by a gourmet chef.

But her breeding of dorgis was not welcomed by all. “The dachshund was evolved to chase badgers down holes, and the corgis to round up cattle. If anyone loses a herd of cattle down a badger hole,



JOAN WILLIAMS/REX

## THE QUEEN’S CORGIS



The Queen with one of her corgis in a royal family documentary shown on the BBC and ITV in 1969

then these are just the dogs to get them out,” the Kennel Club said of the mix.

The Queen also kept gun dogs – spaniels and labradors – in kennels at Sandringham, as well as owning horses, racing pigeons and budgerigars.

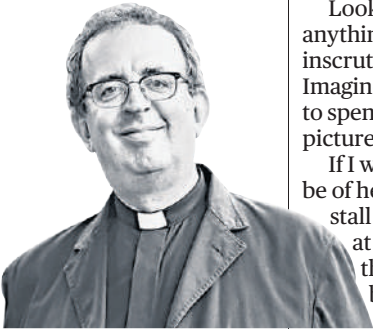
As monarch, she also held the rights to ownership of all unmarked mute swans in the country. David Barber, 73, was the Queen’s swan marker for 30 years, and is now

anticipating becoming the King’s swan marker. Each year he takes a census of the health of swans on the River Thames, known as swan upping. “I’m pretty upset. I used to meet her quite a lot,” he said. “The Queen took great interest in the swans. It would be very nice to see the new King take an interest and he is certainly welcome.

“I know he is interested in conservation so he can come swan upping any time.”

## Richard Coles

Elizabeth has earned an epithet. Here’s the one I’d choose



It is said that in extremis, our lives flash before our eyes. In the case of the Queen, uniquely, it is her life that flashes before our eyes. She has always been there, on the stamps, sitting in front of the Buckingham Palace Christmas tree, knighting people, opening things, waving from a balcony, sitting on a horse, having tea with Paddington.

There are alternative versions of her; make-believe Queens, played by Dame Helen Mirren, Claire Foy, Olivia Colman, Stanley Baxter, Diana Quick, Freya Wilson and – most seen of all – the lookie-like Jeannette Charles.

We have seen her in regal pomp, in twin-set and pearls, in Brownie uniform, in wellingtons and headscarves, in khaki, in Garter robes, in the DayGlo pepperpot outfits she had to wear for work so we could see her in a crowd, the most looked-at person of all.

Looked at, but rarely returning anything other than the same inscrutable image on the £10 note. Imagine how demanding that must be, to spend a lifetime looking like your picture on the currency?

If I were to choose one image, it would be of her masked, in black, alone in her stall at St George’s Chapel, Windsor, at the funeral of her husband. I think it is enduring not only because it shows that in a time of crisis she did not exempt herself

from the obligations her subjects were expected to uphold – like her father, who during the war ordered 5in of depth be marked on all the bathtubs in Buckingham Palace as part of the drive to conserve fuel – but because others in government did. Perhaps they felt they were above the rules that bind the rest of us. She, as head of state, actually was, but she did not shirk her duty, because she understood her role was to unite a nation in a time of adversity. I think this is why the antics at No 10 were so offensive to so many. The job of our leaders is to hold us together. What did they think they were doing? The Queen understood without having to be told.

I was vicar of a parish dating back to Edward the Confessor, so named for his piety, in whose reign the church’s yew trees were planted. So I tend to take note of monarchs known by an epithet, like Ethelred the Unready, Alfred the Great, Ferdinand the Fickle, Albert the Peculiar and, my favourite, Erik the Priest Hater. But what of Elizabeth II?

As a priest of the Church of England, I would want to make a case for Elizabeth the Apologist, in the technical sense of someone whose whole life was a demonstration of what Christian faith looks like. I can think of no one in our time who has more persuasively done so, and explicitly advocated it in her Christmas messages, which preached with unmatched brevity and clarity the

In a world of change, she never wavered

essentials of the gospel, and did so, paradoxically, from a palace rather than a stable. She did not choose the life she was born into, but she did choose her commitments – to the faith, to the nation, to the Commonwealth.

And what a long life. Elizabeth the Long-Lived, perhaps, in acknowledgment of her 96 years and the longest reign in English history? Reaching that great age is not so special today, although to have done so with the patient grace of the Queen is certainly commendable, especially when you consider the burden she carried.

Elizabeth the Far-Travelled? No monarch in history can have done anything like her mileage, by carriage, by car, by plane, and by ship, especially the Royal Yacht Britannia, which the new government in 1997, in a decision of unsparing thrift, decided not to recommit for her use. I say her use – for the service of the monarch, not as a sort of personal indulgence, but as a way of representing Britain to the world, and bringing together its leaders.

What about Elizabeth the Great? But greatness is the measure of the reign, rather than the monarch, and the past 70 years will not go down in history as a golden age for this realm. Some wonderful things in it, but Earth’s proud kingdoms wax and wane, from postwar austerity to never having it so good, to the swinging Sixties and the stumbling

Seventies, through boom and bust and boom again; and, for the Queen personally, from the annus horribilis of 1992 to the Golden Jubilee a decade later.

Not only unrivalled in length of days, but in breadth of experience: the anointed monarch who can give a truck an oil change; who rode on an elephant and flew on Concorde; who has met everyone from King Zog of Albania to Lady Gaga; the supreme governor of the Church of England, who only became queen because of her uncle’s infidelities and whose own children have been through the mill of divorce in the merciless gaze of the media.

Length of years, breadth of experience, the pitch and toss of life’s fortunes and misfortunes – and yet she endured, for 70 years, impassive, uncomplaining, solid as a rock. In a world of ceaseless change, a world in thrall to the idea that we can write off, start again and reinvent ourselves endlessly, she never wavered in her commitment to fulfil a role she neither sought nor desired. In a world that finds it impossible to commit to lunch, she kept the promise she made when she became heir to the throne, that her whole life, whether it be long or short, would be devoted to our service.

I would choose Elizabeth the Dutiful. Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints.

And God save the King.





# How to keep the monarchy alive: lessons for a new king

Tom Calver Data Editor

In 1864 a plucky protester pinned a notice to the railings of Buckingham Palace. “These commanding premises to be let or sold in consequence of the late occupant’s declining business,” it said.

When Queen Victoria had lost her husband three years earlier, the public were initially sympathetic, the royal historian Tracy Borman says. “But when their queen showed no sign of resuming her duties after the conventional year of mourning, they grew uneasy.”

Republican sentiment thrived: rallies were held and pamphlets called for a scrutiny of her finances. Even Princess Alice, one of Queen Victoria’s five daughters, felt that inaction would lead to the end of the monarchy.

The episode terrified politicians of the age, for whom at that moment the monarchy appeared fallible.

Throughout Queen Elizabeth II’s reign, however, republicanism has largely been reduced to a fringe movement. Reliable data is

hard to come by, but the British Election Study of 1964, 12 years after her accession, found that only 14 per cent of people thought the queen and royal family were “not very important to Britain”.

The dial has not shifted hugely since. The National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) has been keeping a regular dataset since 1983, which shows that the trend of people feeling the monarchy is not important or calling for its abolition never gets above 25 per cent.

Historically, British republicanism is more common than we may think, says historian James Hawes, author of *The Shortest History of England*. “It’s a lurking thing that happens whenever the British people sense the descendants of the Normans are not like them.”

At times this feeling bubbles up to the surface, like during the peasants’ revolt of 1381. “Richard II handled this brilliantly,” he adds. “At age 14 he went out and became the first king to address his subjects in English. It worked and they all loved him.”

Hawes traces a similar pattern before the English

Civil War. “When King Charles I started to look like a Roman Catholic and married a French queen, he appeared too culturally different to his people,” he says.

“[Queen Elizabeth II] managed to persuade us that despite all the wealth she was very much like us: she liked her dogs, a drink and a joke.”

Paradoxically, says Borman, republicanism rears its head visibly only when we have significant celebrations, like jubilees: think the Sex Pistols playing *God Save the Queen* on the Thames. “It’s often caused by anti-monarchists getting annoyed with the generalisations in the media, who say ‘isn’t this amazing’ – and they want to get their viewpoint across.”

Incidentally, John Lydon – then Johnny Rotten, the Sex Pistols’ frontman – tweeted a message of sympathy on Friday: “Rest in Peace Queen Elizabeth II. Send her victorious.”

And although the activities of fringe activists attract headlines, in reality the mainstream rise of republicanism – manifesting in murmurs of discontent – can be traced to moments of

RON BELL/PA



Royal celebrations, such as the Silver Jubilee, often result in a rise in republican feeling

abolished – a small minority, but the highest level since records began. One group that has been particularly put off by recent events is the young: about 21 per cent of 17 to 34-year-olds were in favour of abolition.

Curtice suggests that rather than a generational effect, it is an age effect: “As each cohort of people get older, they are more supportive of the monarchy. It could be that as people age and learn how uncertain life is, the crown is more likely to become a focus of unity.”

Professor Dennis Altman of La Trobe University, Melbourne, has written about the “strange persistence of monarchies” in his book *God Save The Queen*. His thesis is that during times of political instability, constitutional monarchs can offer much-needed stability – and provide a check on the political establishment.

“Would a president Boris be more scary than a prime minister Boris?” he says. “Or look at the US: one of the strongest arguments against republicanism is the image of Donald Trump looming over the Queen.”

Many in favour of reform are waiting in the wings, including the former Liberal Democrat minister Norman Baker, who wants a much smaller and less expensive royal family. “Yes, there will be a lot of sympathy and grief,” he says. “But after things have settled down . . . if Charles is wise then he will introduce reforms now that will help secure his legacy.”

Some are sceptical that the King will have the same nullifying effect on republicanism as his mother. Hawes thinks Charles may struggle to appeal to the ordinary person.

“What Elizabeth did so brilliantly was become the personal incorporation of the institution,” he says. “The problem is that the institution has become completely identified with her. What’s left now that she is gone?”

King Charles began his reign by shaking the hands of wellwishers outside the palace. Thanks to his mother, support for the monarchy has been high but the relationship is always being reassessed. Public displays of humanity could help reduce the republican flame.

“Johnny Rotten tweeted: RIP

crisis within the royal family. According to NatCen, opposition to the monarchy rose slightly after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, in 1997. It slumped around the wedding of Prince William in 2011, and the Diamond Jubilee in 2012.

However, republicanism picked up again from 2019 onwards. Some pollsters believe this is a response to the Duke of York’s involvement with Jeffrey

Epstein, and the Sussexes stepping back from royal duties. Professor Sir John Curtice, senior research fellow at NatCen, says people’s attitudes towards the monarchy are not unconditional. “Charles will need to be doing a good job – and he’s inheriting the monarchy at a time when support is somewhat lower than it has been.”

Last year 14 per cent of people wanted the monarchy

# One step closer to their destiny

William and Kate and their children will now move nearer to centre stage and play a significant role in the ‘big family moments’

**ROYA NIKKHAH**

Royal Editor



At 40, they are still the younger faces representing the monarchy. For the new Prince and Princess of Wales, supporting the septuagenarian monarch is their priority, and in doing so they will take centre stage in the reign of King Charles III.

It is only a few weeks since William and Kate moved their family from London to Adelaide Cottage in Windsor.

Their plan had been to be closer to the Queen and to give their children, Prince George, 9, Princess Charlotte, 7 and Prince Louis, 4, the space and time to grow up more shielded from the public spotlight than city life permitted.

But that plan will now change dramatically as the family take on the greater challenges and responsibilities that lie ahead for the heir apparent and his wife.

In the coming days and months, their children are likely to be more visible at the “big family moments” that accompany a change of reign. It is thought they will eventually move into Windsor Castle, a residence not favoured by the King, who will divide his time between Buckingham Palace, Sandringham in Norfolk and Birkhall, his home in Scotland.

William has long felt the pressure building up to this moment. Ahead of his 40th birthday in June, an aide admitted that “there is a sense of the future accelerating towards him, which is tinged with profound sadness – because of the implication that his grandmother would no longer be around, the added pressures on his father and his family being under even more scrutiny”.

As a friend recently said: “He knows the future [of the monarchy] rests on his, Catherine’s and his kids’ shoulders, and that’s a lot of pressure.” The same friend also said: “He is going to step up and deliver.”

That William feels the weight was clear to see as he joined his father at the Accession Council at St James’s Palace yesterday, witnessing his father’s oath, an oath he will take next as monarch.

Friends of Charles and William have described a “renaissance” in their once-strained relationship, with father and son growing closer as their destinies converged and as Diana’s memory cast less of a shadow.

Not long ago William also told me that he felt that his relationship with his grandmother had “massively improved” in recent years – “I think because I’m learning more from her and our views on the future, together with my father, are more aligned than ever”.

William helped the Queen and his father navigate their way through Megxit and the ensuing fallout, and Prince Andrew’s removal from public life after the Jeffrey Epstein scandal.

That royal co-piloting experience will be crucial in the months ahead, as King Charles consults his son on the future of



JONATHAN BRADY/PA

William, Kate and their children beamed on their way to a settling in afternoon at Lambrook School, near Ascot, last week

his streamlined monarchy. William’s 40-year training as a king-in-waiting has instilled a firm sense of his ultimate duty. “One day I will lead the family and it’s important that I am able to do that,” he has told me.

Charles was the longest-serving British heir apparent and William will have a much shorter period to make his mark as heir to the throne, but aides have said that his role as Prince of Wales has been “taking up a lot of his thinking”. William takes over running the Duchy of Cornwall, a 130,000-acre estate that generates £21 million a year which Charles previously used to fund much of his son’s official work. Those close to William say he is looking closely at “how his father ran the business and thinking about whether he wants to make changes”.

Next year William and Kate’s Royal Foundation will launch a long-term initiative on homelessness, one of William’s areas of focus alongside mental health

and conservation, and the new Duke of Cornwall is keen to see how the duchy can play a part in his drive on homelessness.

His “legacy project”, the Earthshot Prize, a ten-year global environmental initiative, will be another priority, and William and Kate are expected to go ahead with a visit to the United States in November championing the prize.

Reacting to their new titles and increased seniority within the firm, a royal source said: “The couple are focused on deepening the trust and respect of the people of Wales over time.

“The Prince and Princess of Wales will approach their roles in the modest and humble way they’ve approached their work previously. The new Princess of Wales appreciates the history associated with this role but will understandably want to look to the future as she creates her own path.”

The couple, who lived in Anglesey for

two years while William worked as an RAF search and rescue helicopter pilot, will spend increasing amounts of time in Wales.

As Princess of Wales, a title forever evocative of Diana, Kate will continue to focus on her own “legacy project” – her work on infancy that she has developed for a decade, culminating in the launch last year of the Royal Foundation Centre for Early Childhood. It brings together academics, charities and other bodies to “collaborate on new solutions” for early intervention.

Royal aides say she believes the issues are “the social equivalent to climate change”.

In 2019 the Queen promoted Kate to Dame Grand Cross, the highest female rank in the Royal Victorian Order, awarded personally by the monarch for services to the sovereign, in a sign of her gratitude to the woman on whose shoulders so much expectation rests.

A royal source who has known Kate from the start believes she quietly observed Her Majesty’s game plan and successfully adopted many of her tactics: “She will be queen for a long time, and knowing her, she will have thought, ‘Who is my role model here, who has done this really well? I think she has taken a lot from the Queen.”

Kate’s support for William will be crucial. A royal source close to the couple summed it up: “She has been a hugely important factor in him coming to terms with his destiny, how comfortable he has become with his role in the royal family as future monarch and the demands of that.”

As a friend has said: “Marriage maketh the man. Catherine’s groundedness has been the critical anchor.”

William and Kate will now live by the motto of the Prince of Wales: Ich dien – I serve.

@RoyaNikkhah





# A PM’s favourite

## ...but what did *she* really think about *them*?

 **Tim Shipman**  
Chief Political Commentator

It was fitting that in her final week Britain’s longest-serving monarch claimed another regal record. When the Queen invited Liz Truss to Balmoral on Tuesday to “kiss hands” and ask her to form a government, Elizabeth II welcomed the 15th prime minister of her 70-year reign, surpassing the 14 prime ministers who served under George III.

The Queen may not have hired and fired governments as her ancestors did, but her weekly audiences with prime ministers tell the story of the evolution of democracy and monarchy in these islands.

She began, of course, with Sir Winston Churchill, born in 1874, who took it upon himself to school the young Queen in the ways of politics. In her later decades it was Elizabeth who was the wise counsel to prime ministers much younger than herself. Truss was born in 1975, only two years before her first grandchild, Peter Phillips.

In the 70 years between Churchill and Truss, the constitutional role of monarch

changed from one whose direct involvement in politics was dwindling fast to one where it is all but extinguished.

The protocol, of course, is that prime ministers never discuss their audiences with the monarch (something that made Peter Morgan’s play *The Audience*, in which their exchanges are imagined, so delicious), but over the years enough has emerged to paint a picture of a Queen who showed acute judgment about people and events.

Throughout seven decades she also maintained both a sense of humour and stamina for the often quick turnover of political personalities. Richard Crossman, a Labour cabinet minister of the 1970s, once asked her if she minded elections. “Yes,” she replied. “It means knowing a lot of new people.”

It was a theme she also touched on in 2002, when Tony Blair held a dinner in her honour in No 10 to mark the Golden Jubilee. Arriving to be greeted by her tenth prime minister and his predecessors Sir Edward Heath, James Callaghan,

Baroness Thatcher and Sir John Major, the woman who probably shook the hands of more strangers than anyone in history joked: “Isn’t it wonderful not to have to be introduced to anyone?”

None of them quite compared to Churchill, who greeted her off the plane when she returned from Kenya, where she had learnt of the death of her father, George VI. Once asked who had been her favourite prime minister, the Queen replied: “Winston, of course, because it was always such fun.” When Churchill retired, Elizabeth sent him a handwritten letter telling him no successor “will ever for me be able to hold the place of my first prime minister”.

The first whiffs of controversy arose under Churchill’s successor, Sir Anthony Eden, with whom the audience was an opportunity to discuss royal and political scandal. The Queen consulted her prime minister about Princess Margaret’s desire to marry Group Captain Peter Townsend, a divorced father of two – a romance thwarted by the establishment. Eden in turn shared classified papers with the monarch about the Suez crisis, in which the prime minister lied about a secret plan he had concocted with the French to oust the Egyptian president Gamal Abdel Nasser. When the Americans refused to back this enterprise, the resulting humiliation finished Eden and terminated Britain’s role as a world power.

It was Eden’s successor, Harold Macmillan, who helped drive a stake through what remained of the monarch’s political influence. In a recent essay Michelle Clement, researcher in residence at No 10, reported Macmillan’s view that “the Queen was a great support, because she is the one person you can talk to”.

Elizabeth’s mistake was that when Macmillan, laid low by the Profumo scandal, his health failing, decided to resign in 1963, he was the only one she listened to.

Macmillan was determined to stop Rab Butler, the deputy prime minister who was the choice of the rest of the cabinet, succeeding him. Butler and Reggie Maudling were popular with Tory MPs; Quintin Hogg (Lord Hailsham) was the choice of grassroots members.

Ben Pimlott, author of *The Queen* – a magisterial biography and the only one that seriously deals with her constitutional and political role – details how Macmillan then sent junior whips armed with “loaded questions” to take the temperature of the party. They returned with the conclusion Macmillan wanted: that the next prime minister should be the Earl of Home (Alec Douglas-Home).

Macmillan dictated a memo for the monarch from his hospital bed. Less than an hour after he resigned, she appeared at his bedside for what Pimlott calls “the most remarkable audience in modern monarchical history – the more extra-

ordinary because, constitutionally, there was no need for it to take place at all”.

Macmillan, having quit, had no more authority to advise the Queen than any other MP, yet he urged her to send for Douglas-Home and she did – despite a warning in the car on the way back to the palace from her private secretary, Sir Michael Adeane, that the advice was “non-constitutional”. Adeane told a journalist it was the Queen’s job to find a prime minister who could command a majority in the Commons; she had no obligation to find the best one available.

The resulting fury led to the abandonment of the “magic circle” stitch-up of the premiership behind closed doors. From then on the Conservative Party would elect its leaders, and the one last vestige of the royal prerogative was defunct.

The Conservative politician Enoch Powell said later: “The Queen was a victim of a violation of the constitution. It is unthinkable that a prime minister should say: ‘Here is my resignation,’ and then, ‘Here is my advice.’” Pimlott concluded that Elizabeth’s decision “in effect to collude with Macmillan’s scheme for blocking the deputy premier must be counted the biggest political misjudgment of her reign”.

It was coloured, perhaps, by her great admiration for Douglas-Home, a fellow Scottish landowner, who was close to her mother’s family, the Bowes-Lyonesses. An aide said: “He was an old friend. They talked about dogs and shooting together.”

The second great controversy came 23 years later, in July 1986, when Margaret Thatcher was prime minister. In the week that the Duke of York was due to marry Sarah Ferguson, The Sunday Times led with the explosive headline “Queen dismayed by ‘uncaring’ Thatcher”. The piece revealed huge tensions between No 10 and the Palace over Thatcher’s refusal to back Commonwealth sanctions on apartheid South Africa and a view that Thatcher was “uncaring, confrontational and socially divisive”. Despite furious denials from the Palace, the primary source was Michael Shea, the Queen’s press secretary.

Andrew Neil, then the editor of the paper, has said he does not believe the version of the affair depicted in the hit Netflix series *The Crown*, which suggested that the Queen put Shea up to it. But he wrote in this newspaper two years ago: “I’m in no doubt that he was broadly reflecting the views of the Queen and other senior members of the royal family (yes, you, Prince Charles).”

Thatcher was stung by the revelations and later complained to the TV inter-



**The Queen’s prime ministers included, from far left, Winston Churchill; top row, Anthony Eden, Alec Douglas-Home and Ted Heath; bottom row, Harold Macmillan, Harold Wilson and James Callaghan; and Margaret Thatcher, right**



# John Major

## Chatting to the Queen is the privilege I miss most

Some years ago, on the banks of the Zambezi River, I visited a small Zambian village where I was greeted by the “head man” – who was, in fact, a head woman – with words I have never forgotten. “My name is Elizabeth,” she said, “just like our Queen.” In a remote, dusty village, whose only water supply was a standpipe, she spoke of our Queen with great affection and respect, even though they had surely never met.

So, too, around the wider world. When anyone spoke of “the Queen”, they were referring to our Queen. She was the physical embodiment of the United Kingdom, which was immensely to our national advantage.

For almost seven years I was fortunate to have a weekly audience with the Queen, in which every topic was open for discussion – nothing was off limits. I soon learnt how well informed she was about the lives of her subjects – and how very much she cared for them. Her focus was always on the personal impact of policy. The fate of nations concerned her, but so too did the fate –

**Sir John Major was appointed a Companion of Honour by the Queen in 1999. They met each week during his seven years as prime minister**

and the life chances – of every individual across the UK.

Audiences between monarch and prime minister are private. No one else is in the room, and no record is kept, although in my own case a bevy of corgis (mostly, but not always, well behaved) was likely to be in attendance.

The Queen was never simply a passive listener. She posed questions and offered acute observations. Any wise prime minister would listen carefully, remembering that she had been meeting their predecessors from Winston Churchill onwards.

I shall for ever remain silent about the substance of my own discussions, but I can say they were always helpful, were usually fun and could, at times of difficulty, be cathartic. Their total privacy was a great strength. They were occasions to be cherished, and when I ceased that weekly ritual, I missed it more than almost any other aspect of being prime minister.

After leaving No 10, I was fortunate in being able to serve the Queen in other capacities. In 2012 I was invited to establish and chair the Queen Elizabeth

Diamond Jubilee Trust. After raising funds throughout the UK and the Commonwealth, I asked the Queen how she would wish the money to be spent. Her reply was typical. She asked that we identify and nurture potential young leaders in each country of the Commonwealth; and treat avoidable blindness across all its 50-plus countries.

The work of the charity evokes many memories, but most of all the annual visit of the Queen’s Young Leaders to our resources were exhausted.

The work of the charity evokes many memories, but most of all the annual visit of the Queen’s Young Leaders to our resources were exhausted.



meet the monarch at Buckingham Palace. Dressed in their finest – many in vibrant national costumes – they formed a long line of excited young people, all with remarkable accomplishments, to shake hands with the Queen and receive their Young Leader Award. The Queen took genuine delight in meeting them.

At each awards ceremony she would remain long after her allotted time. It was her hope that as these young leaders rose in influence, many of them would remain firm friends and advocates for friendship and co-operation, not only with the UK but throughout the Commonwealth.

And today, thanks to the blindness programme, men, women and children who were once blind are now able to see. All of this due to the humanity of the Queen. In this, as in so many ways, her legacy is wide, deep and meaningful, and will last far into the future.

Our nation – and our wider family around the Commonwealth – is now in mourning for a truly great monarch. But no grief can be as great as that which her family will feel. Amid all our

**“A legacy that will last far into the future”**

own sadness, we must not forget that it is they who have lost a devoted mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

On Thursday, outside Windsor Castle, a young man was asked what the Queen had meant to him. I paraphrase his reply: “She was our guiding light; our moral code. She was an example of how we should conduct ourselves. She knew the difference between right and wrong.” What greater tribute could any leader wish for? And how true it is.

On Friday, King Charles III arrived at Buckingham Palace and left his car to greet the many thousands of people who had gathered outside. As he made his way towards the gates, entirely spontaneous cheers rang out from the crowd: “God save the King!”

Nothing would have given Her Majesty more comfort or joy than that, and as I viewed that scene I pictured another: that of HM Queen Elizabeth II, with her radiant smile and bright blue eyes, gazing down on us all, confident that her life’s work is now complete.

*Sir John Major was prime minister from 1990 to 1997*





viewer Brian Walden: “The problem is the Queen is the kind of woman who could vote Social Democratic.”

The Queen and Thatcher had difficult audiences. Robert Hardman, the Queen’s most recent biographer, says Elizabeth told one aide she couldn’t get a word in edgeways: “I wasn’t given much encouragement to comment on what was said,” she complained.

Thatcher’s aides are adamant that she had an abiding respect for the monarchy, evidenced by the depth of her curtsseys. “It used to be a bit of a joke,” her spin doctor Sir Bernard Ingham recalled. “How low would she go this time?”

Both the Labour prime minister Harold Wilson and someone Pimlott calls “a leading churchman” spread stories that Thatcher was so in awe of the monarchy that she fainted twice at palace functions early in her premiership. On the second occasion the Queen told fellow guests: “She’s keeled over again.”

Despite these tensions, there was mutual respect between these alpha females and the Queen probably knew better than most the pressures on Britain’s first female prime minister. After Churchill, the only prime ministerial funeral she attended was Thatcher’s. “It was her choice,” said a source close to the royal household.

“She went because she wanted to.” Nor were relations with Thatcher the worst of the Queen’s reign. After Douglas-Home, she had a succession of prime ministers with working-class origins. Wilson, one of her favourites, had huge respect for tradition and they often spoke for two hours.

But the Queen and Ted Heath never got on. Heath, who took Britain into Europe, had withering contempt for the Commonwealth, the international institution most dear to the Queen.

Footage of the two was released as part of a documentary, *Elizabeth R*, broadcast in 1992. It showed Heath talking over the Queen as he explained how he had just been to see Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi dictator, before the first Gulf War. When he questioned why James Baker, the US secretary of state, had not visited Baghdad like him, the Queen said: “You’re expendable now.”

Heath, like Gordon Brown and Theresa May, had almost no small talk, something liable to make an audience awkward. While the Queen admired Brown’s diligence and seriousness, one figure who is close to courtiers told me: “She already knew enough dour Scotsmen.”

May spoke warmly on Friday of the way the monarch gave her tips on how to deal with world leaders she knew, but theirs were encounters characterised more by admiration than enjoyment. “I

don’t think the Queen found Mrs May any easier to talk to than the rest of us,” said a Conservative with links to the Palace.

But none of these was the nadir of her reign. A few years ago I had dinner with the former prime minister of one of the Queen’s realms, who told me a delicious story he had heard from a senior French diplomat. The Frenchman, with the chutzpah of one unburdened by deference, had boldly asked the Queen who had been her favourite prime minister. She replied, with a sly grin: “That’s not the right question. What you should ask me is who has been my least favourite.” The answer was: “Mr Blair, of course.”

The reason for that was the aftermath of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. If the Queen’s biggest mistake was unquestioningly accepting the advice of Macmillan, her most perilous moment came because she resented accepting the advice of Blair, the first prime minister born during her reign.

He was only months into the job when the public reacted with spontaneous fury to the Queen’s personal refusal to fly the royal standard at half mast over Balmoral or Buckingham Palace when Diana was killed in a Paris car crash – and her reluctance to return to London to greet the mourning crowds.

Elizabeth deeply resented Blair’s coining of the phrase “the People’s Princess” (the brainchild of Alastair Campbell, his

spin doctor) but eventually saw the merit of his advice to speak directly to the nation “as a grandmother” (another Campbell idea).

While the appointment of Douglas-Home changed the way prime ministers are chosen, the fallout from Diana’s death arguably changed the way the monarchy operated. Her heartfelt broadcast stemmed the damage. It was the forerunner of the Queen’s address to the nation during the Covid pandemic – in which she promised: “We’ll meet again” – and the willingness to use television to connect to people. The James Bond stunt at the start of the Olympic opening ceremony in 2012 and her tea with Paddington at the start of the Platinum Jubilee

concert were the best examples of that. While the Queen’s political views usually remained private, she did have them. During the Scottish independence referendum campaign she told wellwishers in Aberdeenshire to “think very carefully about the future”. This was no accident. One of her aides had called journalists, including me, in advance to ensure a reporter would be there to record the comments, and then afterwards to make sure they were clear this was a hint she opposed the separation of her kingdoms.

When Scotland voted to stay, the victory was marred by an indiscretion from David Cameron, a fifth cousin, twice removed, of the Queen. He was caught on camera telling Michael Bloomberg, the New York mayor at the time, that the monarch had “purred down the line” when he called to tell her the result.

Palace officials were even less amused, two years later, when The Sun splashed on the claim that the “Queen backs Brexit” after a cabinet minister revealed Eurosceptic views she had aired during a lunch for privy counsellors and a reception for MPs, long before the referendum.

The question that may never be answered is whether Boris Johnson had eclipsed Blair as her most disliked prime minister. He blotted his copybook almost immediately, revealing the monarch had said she didn’t know “why anyone would want the job”.

Johnson then had to apologise twice to the Queen, the first time for telling her that the prerogative of parliament in 2019 was legal – a decision ruled unlawful by the Supreme Court. The second apology came when it emerged that two Downing Street leaving parties were held on April 16, 2021, the night before the Duke of Edinburgh’s funeral. The last person left No 10 at 4.20am.

A source close to the Palace said: “At least she will be spared having to give Boris a knighthood. I think she loathes Boris because of his behaviour. He went around referring to her as ‘Her Maj’ and he never gave her any useful advice. You would have expected a prime minister to help sort out the mess with Prince Andrew, but Boris couldn’t help because he was mired in scandal of his own.”

In his foreword to the Diamond Jubilee edition of Pimlott’s biography, the constitutional historian Lord Hennessy of Nympsfield quotes the Liberal prime minister William Gladstone, who said that Britain’s unwritten constitution relied on “the good sense and good faith of those who work it”. Hennessy concluded that Elizabeth II possessed “both in abundance” and always enhanced the “great office” she held.

“The same cannot be said of others – not least some of those who have held the headship of government as prime minister in No 10 Downing Street.”



The former prime ministers Sir Tony Blair, Gordon Brown, Boris Johnson, David Cameron, Theresa May and Sir John Major attending the accession ceremony yesterday

# Tony Blair

## Remember her resilience — it will act as our beacon

Her longevity was remarkable, of course. But it doesn’t explain the outpouring of, literally, global grief. It doesn’t even explain the intensity of the sadness of the British people whose queen she was.

People shed tears. And not only the ones you would expect – the ardent royalists who have followed every movement, every occasion, every event of a long reign with avid interest and affection. But I know convinced republicans, those with no affection for or interest in the monarchy, who welled up at her passing.

That can only be explained by what she represented in her character, not the position she occupied in the constitution of the country.

The world over, people grieved. Because she represented values that transcended her place as Britain’s head of state, that symbolised something worth preserving that people feel nonetheless is passing from the world.

Our nation is upset. And if we’re honest with ourselves, we’re anxious because everything around us is already

**The Queen and Tony Blair raise a glass at the Millennium Dome in 2000**

changing faster than we find comfortable, and now this.

The spine of stability and steadfastness that was the Queen’s persona, which has stayed so strong, no matter the turbulence of the times, is taken from us. But alongside the expressions of grief, if we are being true to her, should come the learning. Her legacy should be not only the memory of a life well lived, but a teaching.

The reassuring presence has gone; what she can still teach us has not. I agree with everything that has been said about her sense of duty, decency and dignity. But there is another quality supremely relevant to our times: her resilience.

She lived through an extraordinary and tumultuous period of social change. Look at the old pictures of Britain as she was crowned and the Britain of today.

Different in virtually every way. Nothing constant – except her. That took skill for sure, and as I always said to people as I got to know her well, she was street-smart, much more so than the ceremony surrounding her would lead you to

believe. Very sharp in her perceptions of the people she ruled and never complacent about understanding them.

Yet not merely surviving but thriving through this era of the modern and the new, as the pinnacle of tradition and the hereditary principle, took more than skill. It took determined staying power.

It took toughness in the face of adversity – and she needed the first because she had plenty of the second.

It took a strong, courageous, upright

character. She would bend, but only when she chose to. And when she chose not to she was immovable.

That inner resilience is rare and comes from a source that runs deep. In her case I think it was natural, but also shaped by her Christian faith. Whatever the source, it was real.

Growing up in the dark shadow of war strengthened further that inner steel. She learnt the importance of getting on with it, uncomplaining. Her leadership of the Commonwealth and knowledge of the countries in it, including some of the poorest in the world, and her keen attention to the plight of the disadvantaged in Britain, demonstrated her compassion for the human condition.

But she never indulged in self-pity or unnecessary introspection. She was a no-fuss, “pick yourself up” type of person, whatever storms were raging around her. I think she died as she would have wanted. On Tuesday she welcomed her new prime minister. On Thursday she left the world of the living peacefully and gracefully. This quality meant her

“She knew her duty and she did it”

commitment to her duty never wavered. She knew her duty and she did it.

I feel for King Charles at this moment of heavy responsibility. But I also believe in him. Reinforced by his mother’s example, his attachment to duty is clear. He is an intelligent, caring and good man. His sense of service to his people and his love for them will be as profound as hers. Do not imagine for an instant that in the long years past he has not watched, absorbed and thought about what it means to be king. He is well prepared and, I have no doubt, resilient for the task ahead.

That resilience embodied by the Queen, and which the King shares, is her enduring gift to us. It would be a poor tribute to her if, having admired how she lived her life, we ignored what it can teach us about how we live our own.

So, even as we mourn, whatever our travails here or on the horizon, let her spirit give ours confidence, that whatever the challenge, we too have the character to overcome.

Sir Tony Blair was prime minister from 1997 to 2007





# Rod Liddle

## The shock for boomers like me is we honestly don’t know what comes next



Attempting to explain the significance of the Queen’s death to my 16-year-old daughter produced the kind of blank incomprehension I display when she’s trying to show me how to use my phone. Very old woman dies after a long illness. Simply because something is inevitable that doesn’t mean it’s trivial, I lecture, with the requisite boomer pomposity. Indeed, someone during the BBC’s superb coverage – possibly Jim Naughtie; maybe Huw Edwards – suggested we had been inclined to deny that inevitability to ourselves and pretend, given her magnificence and longevity, it might never happen. This perhaps explains the genuine sense of shock that accompanied the grief: it did happen. Somewhere in that fermata between knowing it was inevitable and then being shocked lies an explanation for at least part of our grief. What I mean by this is broadly what I attempted to explain to my daughter, who could not be expected to grasp the significance of the Queen’s death in the same way as a 62-year-old. As the commentators did their bit on television and radio, the words that sprang out of the ether were ones you do not often hear these days, and when you do hear them they are usually uttered with either irony or disapproval. Obedience, duty, hard work, humility, responsibility, devotion ... These were the qualities possessed by our queen, and with her passing came the understanding that the age in which this sort of stuff counted for something is gone too. We – those of us of a certain age – were mourning not just the death of a great monarch but the passing of our own time, suddenly exchanged for a world we perhaps do not entirely comprehend and certainly find wanting. The death of Queen Elizabeth II draws a line under the era we know as “postwar”, with its easily comprehensible competing ideological

● The disposition of people in my local town was one of deep sadness at the Queen’s death, of course — but also a certain weariness that this was all we were going to hear about for the next month. I’ve heard plenty of journo’s muttering the same thing, sotto voce. We feel compelled, out of a wish not to be seen as disrespectful, to keep churning it out — much as we did for the deaths of Diana, Margaret Thatcher, Nelson Mandela and the Duke of Edinburgh. And yet, much though they loved the Queen, an awful lot of our viewers and readers are quietly yearning for the day when the first thing they see upon turning on their televisions isn’t the crepuscular Nick Witchell looking even grimmer than usual.

“  
**We mourn not just the death of a great monarch but the passing of our own time**

blocs. Geopolitics is probably a slightly less dangerous place in 2022 than it was in 1962 or even 1982, despite what the idiotic Doomsday Clock tells us, but it is also more complex and more confusing. But more important, I think, is that the verities, which we in our arrogance assumed were eternal, and which evolved directly from the country’s experiences in the Second World War, are either vanishing or have already disappeared. You can add to that earlier list of mine emotional continence, stoicism, not complaining about one’s hardships and privations, saving money for a rainy day and, perhaps the most significant, a belief in God. Elizabeth Windsor was a rather pious individual and took the church – the Anglican Church – very seriously, rather more seriously than it takes itself these days. That humility that is so often mentioned in discussions of the Queen derived directly from her faith, her knowledge, that there was a power higher than herself: a monarchy without that is just celebritydom. King Charles III is also very interested in faith, so we might pretend there is continuity. But I fear he is interested in it in much the same way as he is interested in homeopathy, or bad repro architecture, or conversing with shrubberies. The royal family have not been immune to secularisation and the whittling away of old, cherished values, and the Queen’s final years were a distressing testament to this process. It must at times have been torturous for her as tawdry scandal followed tawdry scandal, but her instinct was always to keep things together and carry on. I showed my daughter the back page of the Daily Mail on Friday morning, a rather lovely photograph of the Queen watching the flypast at her Platinum Jubilee. “We will not see her like again” read the headline. My daughter saw it, though, in the manner of someone of her generation: “We will not see her, like, again.” I think she was joking, but I can’t be sure.

### New business secretary tackles crisis



PHOTOBUBBLE: NICK NEWMAN

● The BBC has cancelled Last Night of the Proms “as a mark of respect” to the Queen. Really? Wouldn’t it be a rather fitting and poignant way for people to say farewell to Her Majesty, while being reminded of the

continuity of the monarchy? Isn’t the real reason that the BBC loathes the Last Night of the Proms and would take any opportunity — such as Prince Louis catching mumps, or a pandemic — to cancel it?

### Now we see our real enemies

Sinn Fein and Vladimir Putin were both able to deliver themselves of generous and seemingly sincere condolences on the death of our Queen, but not so the social justice warriors of the kinder, gentler left. Uju Anya, professor of resentment studies at Pittsburgh’s Carnegie Mellon University, wrote: “I heard the chief monarch of a thieving raping genocidal empire is finally dying. May her pain be excruciating.” What shocks is not the vileness and hatred — we are used to that. It is the ignorance. What is a “chief monarch”? And is she not aware that it was the Queen who ushered out our empire? There were similarly dim-witted observations by critical race theorists in the world’s worst newspaper, The New York Times. These people really ought to read a few books not written by their similarly delusional friends.

### Why posh people are sometimes late

Not that it matters, but I don’t suppose we will find out precisely when the Queen died. Yer toffs are a bit funny about death, I think. I remember ringing the cabinet minister Nick Ridley (Lord Ridley of Liddesdale) in 1993, trying to persuade him to come on BBC Radio 4’s Today programme, where I was working as a producer. The woman who answered the phone said: “Sorry, he won’t be appearing tomorrow morning.” I rang later and she repeated her insistence. Could I at least have a word with him, I asked. “No, that isn’t possible,” she replied. Late the next day it was announced that he had died three days earlier.

Commemorative magazines from The Times and The Sunday Times will be published next weekend.



**THE TIMES**  
**THE SUNDAY TIMES**  
*Know your times*





Rankin (2002) When she first walked in, it was so strange. This amazing wave of power washed over us

### MY FAVOURITE PORTRAITS — CHOSEN BY RANKIN

My photograph of the Queen was commissioned for the Golden Jubilee in 2002. There were ten of us photographing her and we each got five minutes. I was used to shooting bands in hotel rooms, so the time restriction didn't faze me. When I researched her, I read that everybody who knew her said she had an incredible sense of humour. I thought, that is what I want to capture.

So I found myself at Buckingham Palace, in the throne room waiting for her. I was a bit nervous, then I saw her walking down this long corridor, with what I'm assuming was a footman. She was really laughing with him.

When she walked into the throne room, it was just so strange. This amazing wave of power washed over us. From that moment on, I don't really remember anything she said; it was a bit of a blur. When we started shooting, I do remember thinking, wow, I'm getting gold. She really looked through the lens.

A piece of my equipment fell out of my camera, the lead that makes the flash sync with the camera shutter. I was silently willing my assistant to fix it. I believe the Queen found the situation kind of comic and laughed. Once I'd seen that smile, that was it.

I started, almost like Austin Powers — "Ma'am, can you smile please? Ma'am, Ma'am, can you smile please?" — and kept repeating it till she smiled once, did a massive grin, which became the shot, then a smaller smile. Three frames out of a hundred.



David Montgomery (1967) He found something different to capture. He looked at her as a real person. It is that casualness that really makes the image. Apparently she chose to sit next to the electric heater with her dogs because he asked her to sit wherever she normally would.



Snowdon (1982) The composition captures the Queen in a truly modern way. Who else but her former brother-in-law could take a picture that breaks down the traditional pomp?



Tim Graham (1982) I've always felt that the Queen probably understood the power of the image more than most celebrities. I'd love to see her photo albums



Chris Levine (2007) When you see images of iconic people you sometimes forget their humanity. They can become symbols. That's why Levine's image is so powerful.

# She had to keep her opinions zipped. But her fashion often spoke loudly

The Queen perfected the art of soft-power dressing and understood she could send signals with her choice of outfit

Karen Dacre Fashion Director

From micro-miniskirts to vertiginous platforms, the Queen witnessed a revolving carousel of fashion trends, and set a few of her own along the way.

But fashion was never royal business. "There's always something cold and rather cruel about chic clothes, which she wants to avoid," said her former couturier, Sir Hardy Amies, of his most famous client. "She conjured a warm munificence instead."

The Queen never cared for fashion, but saw it as her duty to get it right, creating a much emulated prototype for female power dressing along the way. Her fashion legacy is her dedication to a uniform that, until the very end, ignited a sense of solidarity and affection in her subjects. Whatever turbulence was happening in the world — and there was plenty — Her Majesty has soothed with consistency, her unchanging presence serving as a port clad in primrose yellow in every storm.

For the millions who loved her, there was a sense of comfort to be gained from the presence of a woman who, for much of her life, wore a pair of two-inch heel Anello & Davide black court shoes, carried the same Launer handbag and stuck to hem heights that fell below the knee.

A dedication to a colour palette loaded with magenta, primrose yellow and chartreuse further endeared the Queen to the nation. "I have to be seen to be believed," she once said. She dressed herself with that purpose in mind, following Amies's motto that a woman's day clothes must look "equally good at Salisbury station as the Ritz bar".

Following a brief dalliance with floral tea dresses typical of the 1940s, she began honing her signature stately look at an early age. Glittering gowns, designed by Sir Norman Hartnell, were the go-to for evening banquets and receptions overseas. Hats were always part of the repertoire. Until his retirement in 2002, Freddie Fox kept the Queen in millinery, understanding that the brim must not be so wide that people cannot see her face and the crown not so high that Her Majesty might have difficulty getting in and out of a vehicle.

Daytime looks came from Amies, who created elegant suits without being showy for everything from primary school visits to world tours.

Amies, a designer with a military background, understood the power of the perfect cut and understood the importance of a wardrobe that was irreverent. In an interview with an Australian journalist in 1979, he described his working relationship with the Queen. "In the Palace, there are sitting and waiting rooms set aside for visiting tradesmen because that, after all, is what I am."

He saw first-hand the sense of duty the Queen possessed regarding her fashion choices, describing how she would stand for hours at fittings. "I said to the Queen in one session at 5pm, 'Ma'am, you've been standing since half past two, and there are two more things to do. Would you like a rest?' She said: 'No, my grandmother warned us we would have to stand a lot.'"

Over the years, the Queen perfected soft power dressing — an aesthetic reinterpreted by all of the couturiers and dressmakers she worked with. Most recently Angela Kelly, who became the Queen's personal assistant and dresser, stands among the most significant influences on her wardrobe.

The historian Michael Pick said: "Hart-

nell and Amies made her more individual, while Angela Kelly has been very clever and managed to take her individual style and make it sparkle."

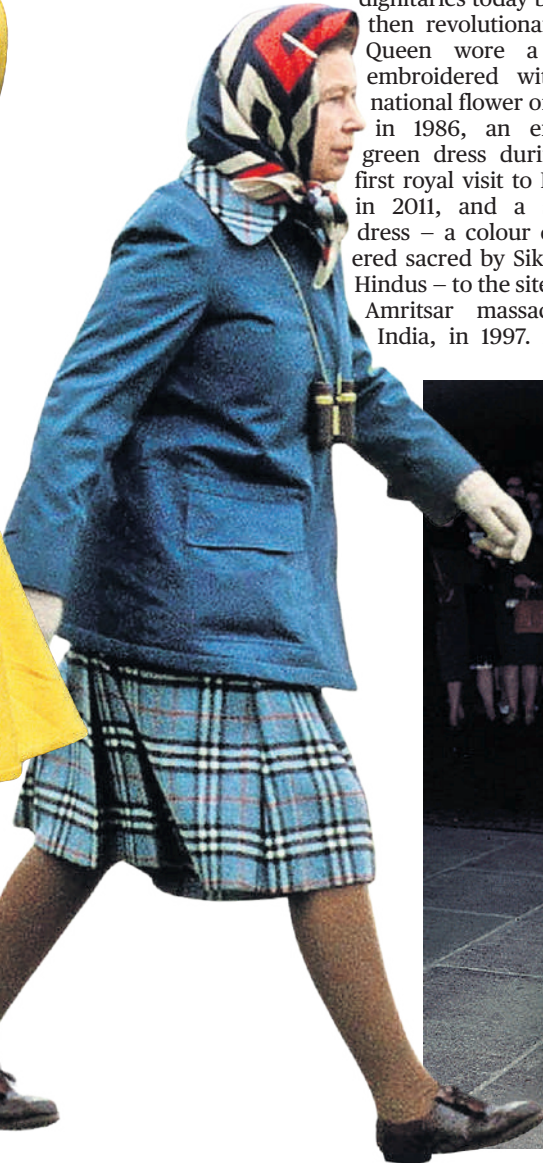
Indeed, Kelly — who worked with the Queen until the very end — seemed to understand the changing nuances of the monarch's dressing requirements.

In a book detailing her life in service, she described how the Queen's style evolved during their time together. Be that through the introduction of pockets — "Her Majesty wanted to be photographed more informally and have the freedom to pose with her hands in her pockets" — or on more practical terms like quick changes — "I go for zips every time in her dresses: it is much more convenient for the Queen to be able to step in and out of a dress quickly; trying to lift a garment over the head can also wreak havoc with the hair."

A true fashion diplomat, the Queen was a pioneer in the art of clothing semiotics and a dab hand at letting her outfit do the talking. Even in her very



From below left, opening parliament in 2017, in Muscat in 1979, wearing one of her favourite heavy woollen kilts and in a Norman Hartnell gown in 1960



early days, she understood that fashion could be a powerful force for a sovereign who wasn't allowed an opinion, famously requesting that each of the Commonwealth emblems be embroidered onto her coronation gown. The coronation couturier, Norman Hartnell, recalled the stipulation in his memoir. "The leek — the Welsh emblem — I agreed was a most admirable vegetable, but scarcely noted for its beauty," he wrote.

For foreign trips and tours, adopting the colours or symbols of the country she was visiting became something of a calling card. In a move that is common for dignitaries today but was then revolutionary, the Queen wore a dress embroidered with the national flower of China in 1986, an emerald green dress during the first royal visit to Ireland in 2011, and a saffron dress — a colour considered sacred by Sikhs and Hindus — to the site of the Amritsar massacre in India, in 1997. As the

years rolled on, she used more subtle means to pledge a quiet allegiance. In 2018, during President Trump's state visit, observers suggested that the Queen had been using her brooches to send messages renouncing the Maga movement. Among her jewellery choices was the so-called "American state visit brooch", an antique given to the Queen by the Obamas, who had enjoyed a warm reception from her when they visited in 2011. Who could forget her choice of millinery in 2017, when the Queen gave her speech at the state opening of parliament wearing a hat that bore a strong resemblance to the EU flag?

Away from the crowds and out of uniform, the Queen's comfortable place was clothing that allowed her to do the things she loved. This often meant trousers, or heavy woollen kilts (like the one she wore to meet the new prime minister, Liz Truss, last week), headscarves and her Wellington boots.

Away from the public eye at Balmoral or Sandringham she would wear items withdrawn from public use. "Her Majesty was likely to encounter the odd muddy dog," Kelly said.





QUEEN ELIZABETH II

# She adored Scotland, but the Union will wobble without her

Although neighbours at Balmoral spoke fondly of the Queen, the calls for independence will now grow ever louder

Megan Agnew and Katie Tarrant

Many of those who gathered at Balmoral last week, carrying bunches of purple heather tied with ribbon, standing so quietly you could hear the rushing of the nearby River Dee, lived for decades with the Queen as one of their own.

Some sat in pews across from her at Crathie Kirk on Sundays. Others walked past her on the hillside, or saw her drive her Land Rover over the bridge as they fished. Balmoral in Aberdeenshire is, it is thought, where the Queen was most relaxed and lived most normally.

“She came here to die in the Highlands,” said Elizabeth Strachan, 69, who grew up near the Balmoral Estate. “This is her homeland. It is the place she knows.”

Over the long years of the Queen’s reign, the United Kingdom’s collective identity has changed markedly. Scottish independence went from a fringe cause to the centre of the political debate.

Some believed she gave people a feeling of Britishness, which hampered the vote for separation, that her soft power pushed together a fragmenting nation. Others believed she was viewed as being above the debate and the nationalist cause moved forward regardless.

A poll this May by British Future, a think tank, found that more than 36 per cent of Scots thought the end of the Queen’s reign would be the right time to abolish the monarchy.

How will the accession of King Charles III change things? Is the political union separate, in voters’ minds, to the monarchical one? And if it is, can it remain that way?

Alex Salmond, the former first minister and leader of the SNP during the 2014 referendum, thinks the impact of her death on politics will be “on the margins”. He said: “Her presence did not stop the rise of Scottish nationalism over the last 70 years of her great reign so her passing will not change its direction either.” Salmond, who is a privy counsellor and attended yesterday’s accession council, shared the Queen’s love of horseracing and has spoken warmly of her.

Still, the smallest remarks she made about the Union generated big headlines. In 1977, before a vote on the establishment of an assembly in Edinburgh, she made a speech emphasising how she was crowned Queen of all four nations. Ahead of the 2014 referendum vote, she said to a wellwisher: “I hope people will think very carefully about the future.”

David Cameron later told Michael Bloomberg, the former New York mayor, that the Queen “purred down the line” when she found out about the “no” result. Salmond was invited for breakfast at Balmoral the next morning.

“The Queen was absolutely furious,

the angriest I’d ever seen her,” said Salmond. “I don’t think she was trying to stop the rise of Scottish nationalism. She wasn’t dyed in the wool for the political union but I think she was dyed in the wool for the union of the Crown. She understood well the difference.”

Cameron has admitted his comments were “a terrible mistake”.

The monarchy pre-dates the political union by 100 years and they have since, largely, existed as separate entities with different reasons to believe in them.

In 1603, James VI of Scotland succeeded Elizabeth I, Queen of England. For the first time there was a King of both nations – and his lineage was Scottish. In 1707, under Queen Anne, England and Scotland’s respective parliaments were blended to create a unified Kingdom of Great Britain.

Nicola Sturgeon, the first minister, has been firm in her support of the Queen and the monarchy. In May of this year she reiterated that the royal family would continue to rule regardless of a “yes” or a “no” vote.

Scottish nationalists do not all agree. Chris McEleny, general secretary of the Alba Party, which Salmond now leads, said in a statement: “If the people of the rest of the UK wish to have King Charles as their head of state then good luck to them, but there should be zero countenance of that absurdity in an independent Scotland.”

Gerry Hassan, professor of social change at Glasgow Caledonian University, believes this sort of nationalism is a form of unattainable “purism”.

“Some people fetishise absolute sovereignty,” he said. “Other people would say, including myself, that it’s a complete impossibility, like people’s dream of an absolute, hard Brexit.”

Scotland can be an independent state without being a republican one, he claimed. “The monarchy is about magic, illusion and fakery. Psychologically, as human beings, we have a use for that. It is how we come together, it is something to believe in. The politician union is debatable in its usefulness. Which means you can end the latter much more clearly, and with more reason.”

Sandra Fagan, 66, drove to Balmoral from Perth with her mother, daughter, and grandson – four generations spanning four monarchs.

Sandra’s father was a “red-hot” SNP supporter, shouting at the television that it was “all about England”. “But when it came to royalty and the Queen it was different. He wanted different laws for Scotland but never a different head of state. Believing in the monarchy is spiritual, it has nothing to do with separatism, which you argue about over the dinner table.”

Does Charles have the same allure? While some welcome the continuity his reign represents, others at the gates would have preferred the “young blood” of William, 40, to the 73-year-old King.

Graham and Susan Cameron, their son, Callum, 27, and dog, “Her Royal Highness” Tia Cameron, drove 85 miles from Buckie to lay flowers at the Balmoral gates on Friday morning.

“I’m not a monarchist,” said Susan, 58, “but she was like a mother to all of us.



ANDREW MILLIGAN/PA; PETR DAVID JOSEK/AP



**Mourners at Balmoral talked of a close relationship with the Queen. Above, a gun at Edinburgh Castle for Charles’s accession**

She’s been a constant through a relentless period of change, tying us all together. It is a relief to have Charles – it means the monarchy goes on.”

The Queen Mother was the youngest daughter of the Earl of Strathmore, who lived at Glamis Castle, and the young princess spent time there growing up. It was in Scotland that Prince Philip mooted the idea of their marriage, where the couple spent their honeymoon and

later, where the family found out about the death of Diana, Princess of Wales.

The royal property portfolio is sprawling, worth £261.5 million and including Charles’s Birkhall, the Queen’s beloved Craigowan Lodge, both on Balmoral, the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh, Dumfries House in Cumnock and the Castle of Mey in Caithness.

Balmoral was said to be the Queen’s favourite. She was a “neighbour”, said



David Cobban, 56, the owner of a gift shop in the nearby town of Ballater, who grew up on the Balmoral Estate. The Queen spoke with residents in Doric, the northeast Scots dialect, and wore country clothes much like their own.

“Up here the relationship with the royal family is more intimate,” said Cobban. “They come here so they can be as normal as they can be.”

@MeganAgnew

## Thank you for peace, say Belfast mourners

Beau Donelly

In one of the monarchy’s most loyal corners of Northern Ireland, mourners gathered under leaden skies to pay tribute to “their Queen”.

They came to the Shankill Road in west Belfast in the hours after Buckingham Palace’s announcement on Thursday, standing arm in arm beneath the two-storey mural of Queen Elizabeth II, unveiled earlier this year for her Platinum Jubilee.

On Friday they kept coming. Many scrawled heartfelt messages of thanks and sorrow on the wall, hundreds more left bouquets on the footpath. “Queen of our hearts,” said one note. “You wore that crown so well,” said another.

Mary Irvine, 87, stood by

her daughter, wiping away tears. “I’ve cried all morning,” said Irvine, who has lived all her life in Shankill. “We all worship her here.”

In this part of Belfast, monarchism is embedded in the culture. People spoke of their love and admiration for the Queen, of gratitude at a time of heartache.

Sam McCrory, a Shankill local, said generations of his family had served in the British Army. “It feels like losing a member of the family,” he said. “She devoted her whole life to the service of her people and she did it with such dignity.”

Julie Stockman, 56, added chrysanthemums to the flowers on the path. “Rest easy, your duty’s done,” her note said. “The Shankill community will always remember you.”

Stockman and three friends have booked a flight to London for the Queen’s funeral service. “I want to be there to give back to our Queen what she’s given to us throughout all the years,” she said. “She stood by us through the Troubles.”

Stockman said she admired the Queen for her determination in pursuing

reconciliation in the North, citing her historic handshake with Martin McGuinness, the former IRA commander. Prince Philip’s uncle, Lord Mountbatten, was killed by an IRA bomb in 1979. “That’s forgiveness, a woman with a good heart,” Stockman said. “She was very wise, so she was.”

Elizabeth Brown, 61, said the Queen had been a symbol of hope in this loyalist heartland. “She was a constant fixture in all of our lives,” she said. “She never put a step wrong.”

Floral tributes piled up at the gates of Hillsborough Castle, the Queen’s official residence in Northern Ireland. “Thank you, Ma’am,” was the front page headline of the moderate unionist newspaper, the Belfast Telegraph.

People here hope King Charles will continue the Queen’s legacy in the UK’s smallest nation. If he’s “half as good” as his mother, one said, he’ll serve them well.

A poll for The Sunday Times last month found 48 per cent of voters in Northern Ireland would support remaining part of the UK if a referendum were held now. If the gathering in

“I’ve cried all morning – we worship her here

Shankill is any indication, the younger generation are among the monarchy’s fiercest supporters.

Ryan Pinkerton, 27, and Ashton Gillespie, 24, came from east Belfast to pay their respects. “She’s everything to us,” Pinkerton said. “She stood by us, she helped the peace process,” Gillespie added.

The sentiment in Shankill couldn’t be further removed from scenes circulating on social media, which seemed to show celebrations in some parts of the North at news of the Queen’s death, including a cavalcade of cars and fireworks being lit.

Asked about the video Michelle O’Neill, Sinn Féin’s leader in Northern Ireland, called for people to be respectful. Earlier, O’Neill’s praise of the Queen’s contribution and efforts to advance peace between Ireland and Britain was well received by unionists.

O’Neill said throughout the peace process the Queen had “led by example in building relationships with those of us who are Irish, and who share a different political allegiance and aspirations to her”.

@BeauDonelly

# Jeremy Paxman

## No democrat should accept a monarchy. But we do



As sayings go, *De mortuis nil nisi bonum* is a decent principle – and we should have nothing but bromides to dispense about even our worst rulers, even Edward VIII.

It was the misfortune of Elizabeth II to come to the throne at a time when the institution of the royal family was still reverberating with the aftershocks of the abdication, and that she may not go down in history as one of our greatest monarchs does not reflect so badly upon her.

Elizabeth, who reigned for 70 years, was the polar opposite of Victoria, who reigned for nearly 64. It was not her fault that the British Empire disappeared on her watch, any more than Victoria could claim credit for its expansion into

almost every corner of the globe. Elizabeth was a workaday queen for a workaday nation.

During her span on the throne, 15 men and women served as prime minister. She inherited the throne when Winston Churchill, commonly considered the greatest Briton of all, was in No 10, and it is fitting that her last public engagement should have been to invite Liz Truss to form a government – to invest such a pipsqueak with circumstance should have been beyond her.

She inherited the throne when Britain was a world power and its monarch had an oceangoing yacht. She left it when a charlatan had stamped his foot and withdrawn from the EU. She has presided over a nation in decline, and

yet did not allow herself to become as shop-soiled as her countrymen.

She would doubtless have raised a quizzical eyebrow at the suggestion that she was some sort of feminist icon but it is unarguable that the domestic difficulties she endured mainly had men as their authors. Princess Anne is the only one of her children who seems to have understood the meaning of being royal.

Other European nations retain their kings and queens but Elizabeth was the only one truly entitled to invest the word “majesty” with meaning. It is very unlikely her death will bring forth the scenes of near-hysteria we saw when Diana, Princess of Wales died. Her Majesty was an old lady, and she has succumbed to the same misfortune as

other elderly ladies: as an intelligent person, she never expected otherwise.

The nation seems happiest when led by a monarch who is either young enough for everyone to feel protective towards them or old enough to be

“She inherited the throne when Britain was a world power

venerated. Her successor takes the throne at the age of 73, his successes and failures, foibles and enthusiasms wearily well-known. He will have his work cut out.

As for his people, there is no denying a sea change that has overtaken them all. When Elizabeth was a girl, only a tiny proportion of the population, and even smaller proportion of women, went to university. Her eldest son was sent to Cambridge, where he studied for the “gentleman’s degree” of archaeology and anthropology. Her grandson, Prince William, was given a place at St Andrews, where he studied geography, as his bride-to-be, Catherine, toiled at art history. By this time, it would have seemed aberrant if members of the royal family had not become students. But in

one important respect, they retained their unusualness.

For the default position of most recipients of tertiary education is republicanism – outright rejection of privilege of birth. Some years ago, when I attempted to track down the origins of monarchy for a book I was researching, the closest I could get was the statement that “when history begins, there are gods and there are kings”. The origins of kingship are antediluvian. No self-respecting democrat gives the idea of hereditary titles and being born to eminence house room. Yet here we are.

It has been the genius of the courtiers that the institution will survive and prosper long after Queen Elizabeth’s death. We are destined to remain subjects.



# Baseball, big wheels and a purple skyline pay an all-American tribute

America’s relationship with the monarchy has always been complicated, but she brought the two nations together

Amanda Foreman

My phone started ringing at 7am New York time on Thursday. The news about the Queen’s health had reached the networks and they were calling everyone in. By 9am I was in the CBS newsroom and so began a long day that has not yet ended.

To say that Americans are reacting strongly to the death of the Queen hardly does justice to the immense coverage it has received. Not since the funeral of Pope John Paul II in 2005 has an international figure been given the kind of treatment normally reserved for departed presidents.

That includes the American tendency to start the criticising long before any European outlet would consider it seemly to do so. As any psychologist will tell you, extreme love and hate are two sides of the same coin.

In the studio I was struck by the comment of a “lifestyle” journalist who remarked that Elizabeth II had been the star of a reality TV family, years before the concept had been invented. “Is that why we are so obsessed with the Queen and the monarchy?” mused the anchor before proceeding to display a level of knowledge about the Queen that would put a royal correspondent to shame.

On Thursday night New York was a blinking skyline of mauve, purple and lavender tributes, led by the Empire State Building in silver and purple. It was almost exactly 65 years ago in October 1957 that the Queen had gone to the top of the building to see the view. Cities that the Queen had never visited also paid their respects. Las Vegas illuminated its High Roller observation wheel – the world’s second tallest – a neon purple.

American sport paused briefly, too. On Thursday a minute’s silence was observed and an image of the Queen projected on to large screens before play at the NFL season opener in Los Angeles, at the US Open tennis tournament and at the baseball game in Yankee stadium.

Not everyone was in mourning though. With a breathtaking lack of decorum, *The New York Times* rushed out an opinion piece that accused the Queen of being a participant in Britain’s cover-up of its colonial crimes. This was tepid compared with some outbursts on social media. A linguistics professor at Carnegie Mellon University in Pennsylvania tweeted her hope that the Queen’s final hours were “excruciating”.

America’s relationship with the monarchy has always been complicated. After victory in the War of Independence



From Las Vegas to Washington, where Kamala Harris, the vice-president, signed a book of condolence, the Queen is being mourned

George Washington angrily dismissed suggestions that he become king of the new United States. But there were still officers in his own army who thought that a monarchy would be good for the country. It was an idea that never went away.

Britain was one of the first countries to recognise the Republic of Texas in 1836, and Texans repaid the compliment by openly flirting with the idea of joining the British Empire. At the start of the American Civil War in 1861, the British consulate in Charleston reported high-level discussions on whether it would aid the Confederacy to invite a younger member

of the royal family to become king once the South had achieved independence.

About the same time the 19th-century journalist Thomas Nichols asked “Why does America hate England?”, this Anglo-phobic nation gave the Prince of Wales, the future Edward VII, the biggest welcome yet shown to a foreign dignitary.

Like a cross between a Greek tragedy and a French farce, the drama of Anglo-American relations during the 19th century mainly consisted of young America alternating between vying for Britain’s good opinion and wanting to destroy her.

The Queen had the good fortune to



come to the throne after the US had passed through this awkward adolescent phase. Aged 25, she was stepping into a role that had played an essential part in shaping American identity. Not quite mother figure, certainly not hated step-mother, and yet familial, maternal, and in the origin-story she represented, eternal.

It is no wonder that during her first state visit in 1957, a million people lined the roads to watch her arrive in Washington. There’s no escaping family. Still, family, like biology, is not destiny. It was her choice to embrace the past as proof that the two countries had put it behind them, like mature adults.

That first state visit took place after a crack in Anglo-American relations caused by Suez. Much depended, therefore, on the Queen’s four-night stay at the White House. It wasn’t merely a matter of repairing relations with President Eisenhower, she also needed to charm the public – which she did, by among other things, showing herself to be interested in the things that interested them, like watching a football game.

The recovery of good relations was a testament to the Queen’s personal touch with US presidents. In 1976, at a state dinner in Washington, she rather boldly referred to the British burning of the White House, to add: “But these early quarrels are long buried. What is more important is that our shared language, traditions and history have given us a common vision of what is right and just.”

Yet this mutual heritage alone was not enough to bind the nations, she came to believe. Active reminders and a stroking

“She held up a mirror for a different self”

of the ego of whomever occupied the White House were equally important.

The success of this policy was borne out by what did not happen during the Falklands conflict in 1982. Despite great reason to avoid supporting Britain against Argentina, the US proved to be a reliable ally. Much has been made of the role played by Margaret Thatcher’s relationship with Ronald Reagan. But the Queen’s adept handling of Nancy Reagan during the latter’s visit for the royal wedding the year before had helped to lay the groundwork. After the wedding, the Queen issued a rare private invitation to the Reagans to stay with her at Windsor Castle the following year. A small thing, perhaps, and yet personal touches can decide the fate of a nation.

Before President Obama’s first visit to London in 2009 it was reported that he had little interest in cultivating a special relationship, but Operation Obama proved the most successful charm offensive in the Queen’s history of diplomacy.

Perhaps it was the moment that the Queen and Michelle Obama put their arms around each other, or the amount of private time that the Queen and Prince Philip gave to the Obamas. Either way, by the end of Obama’s two terms relations between the White House and Buckingham Palace had never been better.

The reason Americans are in shock is not because, or merely because, the Queen was famous, or that her family make for good copy; she held up a mirror through which this nation saw a different self, perhaps its best self that only a mother sees.

## Cousin, friend, peacemaker: Europe thanks la petite princesse

Peter Conradi Europe Editor

This was meant to be a joyful weekend for Queen Margrethe II of Denmark and her 5.8 million subjects, who were belatedly set to mark her 50 years on the throne in grand style. Her Golden Jubilee fell in January but was postponed because of Covid. The death of her beloved third cousin has forced another change.

A carriage ride through Copenhagen yesterday was cancelled and other events scaled back. The chain-smoking 82-year-old – now Europe’s longest-serving monarch and only queen regnant – still intends to have lunch today with members of Scandinavia’s other two royal families, but the mood at the table is likely to be sombre.

“Your mother was very important to me and my family,” Margrethe wrote to the King. “She was a towering figure among the European monarchs and a great inspiration to us all. We shall miss her terribly.”

Margrethe’s words seemed heartfelt. In an interview this spring, she revealed that the Queen always asked her to lunch on her visits to London. They addressed each other by their nicknames, “Lilibet” and “Daisy”.

Crown Prince Haakon, the heir to the Norwegian throne, and his wife, Mette-Marit, both 49, have also postponed their visit to the UK this week. His father, King Harald V, 85, a second cousin of the Queen – his grandmother, Maud, was Edward VII’s daughter – was especially saddened.

Media across the Continent has again been dominated by the Queen’s image – as it was

three months ago during her Platinum Jubilee. Often-critical coverage of post-Brexit Britain has given way to respect for another UK: one of ancient tradition and pageantry that reach their apogee in the royal family. Many Europeans seem saddened by the death of a Queen who towered over her Continental counterparts. Britons here have been surprised by condolences from those we meet.

“To you, she was your Queen. To us, she was The Queen,” President Macron tweeted. “She will be with all of us forever.”

His words were hailed by Lord Ricketts, a former ambassador to Paris often heard bemoaning the state of relations between the countries – exemplified by Liz Truss’s assertion last month that “the jury is still out” on whether the president was “friend or foe”.

“I’m struck by the real sense of grief in France, and the depth of gratitude for what the Queen stood for,” Ricketts tweeted. “I’ve had hundreds of moving messages from friends.”

Tributes from other leaders reflected the Queen’s connection with their countries: Olaf Scholz, the German chancellor, praised not just her “legendary” sense of duty but also her contribution to reconciliation after 1945. President Zelensky offered “thoughts and prayers” and President Duda of Poland called the Queen the “embodiment of everything that makes Britain truly great”. Even President Putin praised her as having “rightfully enjoyed the love and respect of her subjects,



Queen Margrethe of Denmark described the Queen as a “towering figure among the European monarchs”

as well as authority on the world stage”.

The French – who sent their own monarch to the guillotine in 1793 – have been keen to reflect on her relationship with what they have described as her “favourite country”. The love affair, they explained, began in May 1948 when, aged 22 and recently married to the Duke of Edinburgh, she chose France for her first trip abroad. The crowds loved the woman dubbed *la petite princesse anglaise* by the press, her visit crowned by a banquet at which she and Philip were serenaded by Édith Piaf, who sang *La Vie en Rose* for them – including a special verse in English.

Shrewd observers later claimed to have noted the future monarch was holding her champagne glass to her lips but not drinking. She was

pregnant with Charles but this had not been announced.

In France and elsewhere there is also discussion by “royal experts” of the prospects for Charles III and what his accession means not just for the monarchy but also for the UK as a whole.

“Charles accedes at a time when his kingdom is more disunited than ever,” said Stéphane Bern, France’s leading royal watcher. In an article entitled “Charles remains Charles”, the leading German weekly, *Die Zeit*, pondered how he will reconcile the views he has expressed on many issues with the discretion required of a monarch.

Such matters will be of little concern, though, to most Europeans, who will soak up the wall-to-wall royal coverage of the next few days. @Peter\_Conradi

## William may tackle republicans with trip to rugby World Cup in Australia

James Salmon Perth

The new King speaks fondly of his special bond with Australia. “I love Australia and Australians and I love coming here,” he enthused in 2018 on the most recent of his 16 visits to the country.

The feeling has not always been mutual – and a relationship that began in 1966 after he was dispatched by the Queen as a shy teenager to a boarding school in Victoria is about to be put to the ultimate test.

When King Charles III greets the Australian prime minister, Anthony Albanese, in London this week, there is no reason to believe relations will be anything but cordial. The two men may well bond over their shared passion for the environment. But behind the pleasantries, there will be a large elephant in the room: an avowed republican, Albanese is committed to a referendum on whether to split from the monarchy.

Albanese has not spoken about whether the Queen’s death would bring that vote any closer. “Today is not the day to talk about that,” he said shortly after the news emerged from Balmoral.

Australia’s parliament has been suspended for a week and a memorial service will be held following the PM’s return from London. Flags are being flown at half-mast for ten days. There is no doubt, however, that the death of the Queen, who was hugely popular among Australians, is the moment many republicans have been waiting for.

One prominent republican campaigner, who did not want to be named, said: “The Queen’s passing changes everything. For years I’ve heard from so many people, ‘I will be with you when the Queen dies.’ They will now be coming forward.”

The Greens’ leader, Adam Bandt, sparked criticism after calling for a republic hours after the announcement from the Palace. He tweeted his condolences before adding: “Now Australia must move forward.”

Charles is a more polarising figure in Australia than his late mother. Speaking to Times Radio last month, Malcolm Turnbull, a former Australian prime minister, predicted a resurgence of support for the republican cause once he had acceded to the throne.

“When the Queen’s reign comes to an end, there will be a period of reflection, and I think the republic issue will return,” said Turnbull, who led the Australian Republican Movement (ARM) in a 1999 referendum when 55 per cent voted against a republic.

ARM has pointed to a poll in May that found 53 per cent did not support Charles becoming Australia’s head of state. On Friday, it pointed out that the Queen “respected the self-determination of the Australian people” and had backed their right to become a “fully independent nation” back in 1999.

However, the Australian Monarchist League says there is a little appetite for another referendum and that Charles’s long track record of environmental activism appeals strongly to younger Australians.

The King’s deep-rooted affection for the country began when the 17-year-old was sent to Geelong Grammar School for six months. Most of that time was spent at the school’s remote Timbertop mountain outpost 100 miles from Melbourne, where he would sleep in freezing tents, chop wood, encounter funnel-web spiders on night hikes and learn how to throw a boomerang. The experience

“If you want to develop character, go to Australia”



Charles on a visit to Queensland in 2018

also helped him develop a thick skin. “I have been called a Pommy bastard many times,” he reminisced on a visit to Australia more than 50 years later. “But look what it has done for me. If you want to develop character, go to Australia.”

His most recent visit was with the Queen Consort for the Commonwealth Games in Queensland. There are photos of a trim-looking Charles in his swimming shorts on Bondi Beach in 1981, and being kissed by a model as he emerged from the sea on Cottesloe Beach two years earlier. But his most famous visit was with Princess Diana in 1983 – a trip that bolstered the popularity of the royal family at a critical time and was portrayed in the Netflix series *The Crown*.

Although there are no plans for the King to visit Australia, there have been reports that the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Cornwall are planning a royal tour to coincide with the Women’s Rugby World Cup next month. The rumours were fuelled by a meeting between New Zealand’s prime minister, Jacinda Ardern, and Prince William at Kensington Palace in July, when she gave him a rugby ball and shirt.

The Queen’s death has provided impetus to the republican movement in New Zealand too. Sir Don McKinnon, a former deputy PM and secretary-general of the Commonwealth, said the possibility of becoming a republic would “build up quite a head of steam now”.

Like Albanese, Ardern speaks only in glowing terms of the Queen. Last year she said she believed the country would become a republic in her lifetime – but “never sensed urgency for the change” and has not committed to a referendum.



The new prime minister's £2,500 bill freeze beckons, but you could still end up paying more than that. Welcome to the baffling world of energy prices. On Thursday Liz Truss promised to protect us from "soaring" bills, yet many questions remain unanswered – like how much you will actually have to pay.

### HOW MUCH WILL MY BILL BE?

A common misunderstanding is that the headline figure of the price cap, currently £1,971, "caps" how much your energy bill will be. If you put the heating on 24 hours a day, boil the kettle constantly and use the tumble dryer five times a day, your heating bill will be much – much – higher. The price cap sets the maximum cost of one unit of electricity. A unit is the name given to one kilowatt hour; it is how much energy you need to run an oven for 30 minutes, or take a six-minute shower. The price cap means that if you live in an "average" two- to three-bedroom home using about 12,000 units of gas and 2,900 units of electricity a year, your maximum monthly direct debit is now about £164. This time last year, it was £95. From next month, the new price cap would have translated that into average bills of £295.

The support package announced by Rishi Sunak, when he was chancellor, takes a flat £400 off bills – £66 a month over the winter – which would have reduced the average monthly payment to £229. That would still be enough to plunge millions into poverty. By the spring, higher price caps would have left the consumer facing monthly bills of £500 a month or higher.

The government's new plan is in effect to lower the price cap to £2,500 a year. Businesses and public sector bodies such as schools will receive what the government calls "equivalent support" for six months, but details are sketchy so far.

Combined with the support scheme – which has been retained – the result is that average bills will stay relatively flat from October, at about £163 a month. The government has pledged to keep these measures for two years.

### WHY IS ENERGY SO EXPENSIVE?

When the world emerged blinking from endless Covid lockdowns last autumn, the oil and gas giants were caught napping. Factories around the globe creaked into gear, people started flying again, and demand for electricity, oil and gas rose.

But production, which had dropped when economies shut in the darkest days of the pandemic, was slow to catch up. Demand outstripped supply and the wholesale price of energy soared.

In the UK, most households were initially unaffected. The companies that sell energy to British consumers were paying a much higher price for their electricity and gas on the wholesale market, but could not pass those costs on to customers. At that time many households were on fixed-price tariffs set for a year or more. And those on variable tariffs were protected by a price cap which at that time stood at an average £1,138 a year. More than 30 companies went bust last winter because they were paying more for energy than they could charge.

When Russia – the second-biggest gas producer and third-biggest oil producer – invaded Ukraine in February, the already rising wholesale prices rocketed. In April the price cap rose to £1,971 and energy companies were allowed to increase prices for the first time in six months. The shock to households was exacerbated by the fact that many of those who had been on fixed-price discount tariffs were coming to an end of their contracts. About 24 million of the 27 million households in Britain are on variable tariffs limited only by the cap.

### IS THIS ALL ABOUT GAS?

The UK is more dependent on gas than most countries. About 80 per cent of our homes are heated by gas boilers. We get only about 4 per cent of our gas directly



Why are our energy prices so complicated?

The plan to freeze bills sounds simple. If only. *Tom Calver* and *Ben Spencer* explain why the power market is such a headache



from Russia. The rest comes from our North Sea supplies and Norway. But we trade energy every day with Europe, which relies on Vladimir Putin for 40 per cent of its gas. With Russia's Nord Stream 1 pipeline closed, supplies are tight.

That explains why gas is so expensive, but why has it affected electricity prices so profoundly? About 40 per cent of our electricity is generated by gas-fired power plants, but the wholesale price of electricity is tied far more closely to the

gas price than one might expect – after all, more than half our power comes from other sources, such as nuclear, wind, solar and hydropower. Why are green energy customers, for example, paying a price determined by the cost of gas?

The answer is complicated, but is explained by the order in which the power grid selects electricity from generators at times of demand. Providing extra wind and solar power costs virtually nothing, because while there is a cost to

building the turbines and panels, running costs are low. So renewables are selected first – for a few pence per megawatt hour (MWh). Nuclear power is also relatively cheap to run (after the huge set-up cost), so is dispatched early on for about £10/MWh. But each extra megawatt hour of gas-fired electricity requires extra gas so the additional costs are far higher, at about £280/MWh. That price sets the cost for the whole market.

### CAN WE STABILISE THE SYSTEM?

Liz Truss said the key challenge to ending the price freeze was to "secure the wholesale price". How could she do that?

The wholesale price could be severed from the gas price if we had enough renewables and nuclear power to meet demand without relying on fossil fuels. Truss insists she is exploring these options. But she has put greater emphasis on seeking new sources of gas from fracking and exploiting new resources in the North Sea. Experts agree more gas will increase energy security. But this will not necessarily cut costs, because any extra gas will be sold on the global market, which will continue to set the price. Moves are also being made to bring down the cost of renewables.

### HOW WILL IT BE PAID FOR?

An announcement is expected from the chancellor, Kwasi Kwarteng, in the coming weeks, but experts estimate the bill is likely to reach £150 billion, well in excess of the pandemic furlough scheme.

Energy companies have suggested a "deficit fund" in which money is borrowed from the banks and then repaid via bills. Critics say that will prolong the pain, extending high bills for a decade. Another solution would be to beef up the wind-fall tax on oil and gas giants, but Truss has already ruled that out. The most likely answer is going to be to find the money by either increasing taxes – which Truss will not do – or borrowing more money and increasing the deficit.

### WHAT ARE OTHERS DOING?

The Dutch consultancy Energy Prices suggests UK households are paying more per unit of electricity than nearly all our European neighbours. We are paying more than twice as much as French households.

Part of that is the price we pay for our environmental efforts. Britain has been quicker than others to stop using coal to generate electricity, leaving it more exposed to gas. Our government also adds more levies to our bills than other nations to pay for green projects. Over the summer, France fully nationalised EDF to stop energy prices from soaring, in a deal worth £11 billion. Germany has spent nearly £90 billion in economic support since the start of the Ukraine war. It had been getting about 55 per cent of its electricity from Russian gas, although this has since reduced to a quarter.

### HOW CAN I CUT MY BILLS?

From next month, about five hours of electric lighting costs 26p. Keeping a TV on for three hours costs 16p. But six hours of central heating will set you back nearly £10. Running a tumble dryer costs nearly £2 a pop. Another big factor is energy efficiency. Research by the Resolution Foundation suggests that the bills of households with the lowest "F" energy efficiency rating will be twice as high as those with "A" and "B" ratings.

There is a limit to scrimping, however. Standing charges are fees you pay regardless of how much electricity you use, and are seen as the price of being connected to the grid. These are about 72p a day, or £21 a month – even if you live in the dark.

Ed Conway, Comment, page 24

## Talks with oil and gas producers set to slash £150bn bill for freeze

Caroline Wheeler  
Political Editor

The prime minister's proposed two-year energy price freeze could cost less than half the original estimate of £150 billion, Treasury insiders claim.

If negotiations with oil and gas producers go well, the cost – funded by extra government borrowing – could be far lower, it was claimed.

To put it in perspective, the total amount spent on the Covid furlough scheme was £70 billion.

In a move likely to define her premiership, Liz Truss announced last week that the government would freeze energy prices so an average household would pay about £2,500 – instead of £3,549 under the new price cap from October 1, saving an average of £1,000 on energy bills this winter.

In reality, the bill could be much higher – or lower – depending on how much electricity and gas is used, such as if the heating is on for one hour a day or eight.

Rather than legislating, ministers will ask energy companies to sign legally binding contracts for as long as 15 years to agree to the price fix. Oil and gas companies could then offset the difference between the cap and the wholesale price, in the short term, while energy prices are high, in exchange for a guaranteed price per unit in the long term. It comes amid claims that the wholesale price could start to fall by the

middle of next year.

A recent report by the Kyiv School of Economics found that the tenfold rise in gas prices, together with extreme market volatility, had been an "overreaction", reflecting deficiencies in energy markets rather than the fundamentals.

The scale of the government's borrowing to fund the price freeze will be set out in the chancellor's first fiscal event, which could take place as soon as September 21, after the ten-day mourning period following the Queen's death.

The prime minister's official spokesman said: "The public should be reassured that the energy price guarantee will be in place for households from October 1, as planned."

Some within government have feared that Truss's intervention on energy could increase the risk of blackouts if households and businesses did not cut consumption.

However, the prime minister is understood to be resisting calls for a public campaign to encourage people to turn down their thermostats and turn off appliances fully instead of leaving them on standby in case it could be seen as nannying.

A source said: "Work was commissioned in this area and rejected by ministers in the last government. The prime minister agrees with that position." Boris Johnson refused to issue advice on usage, saying it was a matter for individuals.

## Shock news on cost of charging electric cars

Nicholas Hellen  
Transport Editor

Plugging in an electric car at a high-speed charger is now more expensive than buying the equivalent amount of petrol or diesel – and the situation will get worse next month.

The cost of charging at home will be protected by the price cap announced on Thursday, but motorists who rely on public chargers will receive no such help.

Quentin Willson, the former *Top Gear* presenter and founder of FairCharge, which campaigns for fair tariffs for electric vehicles, warned Treasury officials last week that surging prices could "imperil the whole electric transition". Sales of new petrol and diesel cars will be banned from 2030.

Following recent energy price increases, the cost of ultra-rapid charging at the Ionity network works out at 19.7p per mile, compared with 18.4p for petrol and 17.8p for diesel. The Instavolt network also costs more than the fuel equivalents.

If prices break the £1 per kWh barrier it will not only be more expensive to use

the most rapid chargers, which can add about 200 miles of battery range in half an hour, but also slower chargers.

Charging at home will remain cheaper, especially for those prepared to take advantage of periods of low demand, such as the middle of the night. It will also still be cheaper to use "trickle chargers", such as those installed in lampposts. However, mass conversion to electric cars depends on motorists without off-street parking going electric – and a quarter of households do not have access to off-street charging.

Willson is co-ordinating a letter on behalf of charge-point operators to Anne-Marie Trevelyan, the transport secretary, and Kwasi Kwarteng, the chancellor, to ask for a cap on electricity prices for public chargers and to cut VAT from 20 per cent to the 5 per cent domestic rate.

Edmund King, president of the AA, said: "It is worth remembering that EV drivers can save on parking, servicing, taxation and ultra-low emission zone charges."

@NicholasHellen

## Vaping may ‘wake up’ cancer cells and trigger wave of disease in a decade’s time

Ben Spencer  
Science Editor

Vaping could trigger a new wave of cancers a decade from now, leading scientists have warned.

About 3.6 million people in Britain – 7.1 per cent of adults – now use e-cigarettes, with vape shops now more common on UK high streets than dry cleaners, travel agents or bookshops.

Professor Charles Swanton, from the Francis Crick Institute in London, who is also the chief clinician of Cancer Research UK, said vaping is "almost certainly" safer than smoking, but still poses a potential threat to people's health.

He said: "I don't think we can say vaping is necessarily a safe option to quit smoking. It may be safer but that doesn't mean it's safe.

"We don't know for certain that vaping won't cause lung cancer ten years from now."

The concerns are raised by the first evidence to explain

why so many non-smokers develop lung cancer. Roughly one in every eight of those diagnosed with lung cancer in the UK – about 6,000 people a year – have never smoked. Scientists have long been puzzled why these non-smokers tend to have tumours with a very different genetic profile.

Now they have found evidence that suggests the process that causes the tumours differs from that of tobacco-caused cancer.

The Crick team's findings show that air pollution and other irritants are to blame. They cause inflammation and then a healing process that "wakes up" dormant cells that carry cancer-causing mutations.

The researchers are concerned that vaping may trigger the same process.

The scientists believe anti-inflammatory drugs may help stop the process, but say this could be some years off. Swanton said: "The

We don't know that it won't cause lung cancer



Vape sellers are now more common than dry cleaners

3.6m  
Vape users in UK — 7.1 per cent of adult population

6,000  
Cases of lung cancer a year in all lifelong non-smokers

mechanism we've identified could help us to find better ways to prevent and treat lung cancer in never smokers. If we can stop cells from growing in response to air pollution, we can reduce the risk of lung cancer."

The scientists presented their findings yesterday at the European Society for Medical Oncology conference in Paris.

They used human and mouse studies to show that exposure to sooty pollution particles in the air promotes the growth of cells in the lungs that carry cancer-causing mutations.

This differs from smoking, which is thought to cause cancer by triggering a direct mutation to DNA, which gives rise to cancer.

Dr William Hill, another researcher on the Crick team, said: "Finding ways to block or reduce inflammation caused by air pollution would go a long way to reducing the risk of lung cancer in people who have never smoked."

## Pop Idol star died after inhaling pain-relief spray

Liam Kelly  
Arts Correspondent

Darius Campbell Danesh, the former *Pop Idol* contestant, died after inhaling a gas commonly used as a pain relief spray and recreational drug, it has been ruled.

Campbell Danesh died unexpectedly at his flat in Rochester, Minnesota, US, on August 11. He was 41.

According to documents posted by the Southern Minnesota regional medical examiner's office, Campbell Danesh's death was caused by "toxic effects of chloroethane" and suffocation. The incident was ruled an accident and the police found no sign of suspicious circumstances.

Chloroethane, also known as ethyl chloride, is a topical anaesthetic often used as a spray to relieve pain from muscle injuries. It is available in pharmacies but has been used as a recreational drug. Campbell Danesh's family

said yesterday he used the pain relief having suffered from chronic pain after breaking his neck in a car crash in 2010.

"We would like to thank everyone for their love and kindness, and ask that the family's privacy is maintained during this difficult time," they said.

The Scottish singer-songwriter shot to fame when



Darius Campbell Danesh's death was ruled an accident

he took part in *Popstars* in 2001 and sang an a capella version of Britney Spears's ... *Baby One More Time*.

The following year Campbell Danesh reached the semi-final of *Pop Idol*, which was won by Will Young. He rejected a record deal with Simon Cowell, the creator of the talent show, and instead signed with Steve Lillywhite, a producer who worked with the Rolling Stones and U2.

*Colourblind*, Campbell Danesh's first single, reached No 1 in the charts but his singing career fizzled out after two studio albums, *Dive In* and *Live Twice*. He had a Sunday Times bestseller when he published *Sink or Swim*, a book about his experiences of both TV shows and fame, in 2004.

He soon reinvented himself as a musical theatre star. At the time of his death he had been preparing for a return to the West End as Caesar in *Cleopatra*.



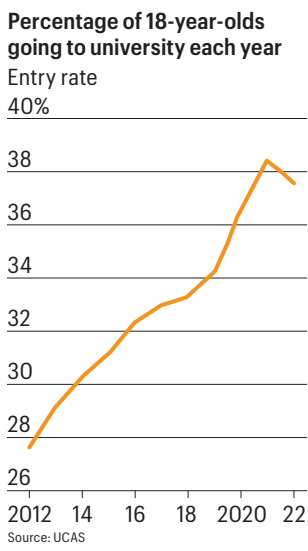
# Clamour for apprenticeships puts dent in numbers heading to university

Sian Griffiths, Bertie Ford and Rachel Lavin

The percentage of British school leavers going to university has fallen for the first time in a decade, according to official figures. Just 37.6 per cent of 18-year-olds will start degrees at UK universities this autumn, or have a deferred place to start next year, compared with 38.4 per cent last year, according to data from the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (Ucas). It is the first drop since 2012, the year when annual tuition fees of £9,000 were introduced.

Experts predict that the trend is likely to continue because universities cannot afford to keep enrolling growing numbers of UK teenagers. Many institutions are recruiting more overseas students, who pay fees of up to £40,000 a year on some courses. Mark Corver, a former head of data at Ucas and now chief executive of the consultancy DataHE, which analysed the new figures, said: “[This] is a sea change that will need careful choices by teenagers leaving school and is the start of a trend likely to continue for several years. It is due to the

worsening economics for universities in supplying places to UK teenagers.” Many school leavers are avoiding a university education and choosing an apprenticeship instead. It is now harder to become an apprentice with employers such as BP, Deloitte and Lloyds than it is to win a place at Oxford or Cambridge. On average, there are seven applications for every undergraduate place at Oxford and six at Cambridge. By comparison, 17,000 teenagers applied for 215 apprenticeship vacancies at the banking group Lloyds to start this autumn, so



each applicant was competing against 78 rivals for a spot. At the oil and gas giant BP, there were 1,253 applicants for 33 vacancies, and at consultants PwC there were 5,919 applications for 589 apprenticeships. Alan Smithers, director of the Centre for Education and Employment Research, University of Buckingham, said: “We have reached a high point in university admissions for British teenagers. That may be a good thing, because young people will have to think more realistically about their futures. Tony Blair’s ambition of 70 per cent of young

people going to university [by 2040] is wholly unrealistic. It may seem disappointing to some who are not getting in but it is a wake-up call to think about other options.” Last week Universities UK, which represents vice chancellors, called for the government to look again at the cap it has imposed on the amount universities can charge students for tuition, warning that the £9,250 fee was worth only £6,600 in real terms after inflation. The body’s president, Steve West, said more money was needed or “future opportunities” for young people would be “limited and crushed”.

Poppy Ellis, 19, who went to school in Essex and achieved three A\* grades at A-level, turned down a place at Exeter University to accept an 18-month apprenticeship with PwC last autumn. She had been put off by the prospect of graduating with a huge student loan and hopes to get a full-time job with the company. “I love it and am sure I made the right decision,” she said. Abdullah Zaman, 18, who is on the same apprenticeship scheme as Ellis and got the same A-level grades, said his friends had gone to Oxford and medical schools but he chose PwC. “People have a

perception that apprenticeships are for people who cannot get top grades but that is not the case any more,” he said. Euan Blair, son of the former prime minister, has set up a company that creates vocational routes to careers by offering training and professional apprenticeships. He said: “Apprenticeships deliver consistently strong outcomes because apprentices are taught and tested with personalised coaching, and what they learn can be immediately applied to the workplace.” @SianGriffiths6

# ‘Cheating’ row after chess king Carlsen loses – but it’s far from black and white

Head scans, computer simulations and paranoia: the world No 1’s bad-tempered exit from a tournament has laid bare the bizarre measures taken to ensure fair play



Nothing is more damaging to a sport than cheating at the highest level. Even the accusation is toxic. Which is why the world of top-flight chess – supposedly a pinnacle of calm, logical thinking – is riven after an unprecedented walk-out from a tournament by the reigning world champion, Magnus Carlsen.

On Monday the 31-year-old Norwegian, widely regarded as the greatest player in history, abandoned the \$500,000 Sinquefeld Cup in St Louis, Missouri, the day after he was defeated by a 19-year-old American grandmaster, Hans Niemann. That loss was itself a shock. It followed a run of 53 games without defeat by Carlsen in the classic, long form of the game. Niemann, despite a meteoric rise, was the lowest-ranked player in the stellar ten-player all-play-all tournament.

This was only the third round of the event, which Carlsen would still have been expected to win. And no one, to my knowledge, has ever abandoned such a tournament except for reasons of ill health. But on his Twitter feed, announcing his exit, Carlsen – a football fan who once led the world rankings in the Fantasy Premier League – attached a video of the former Chelsea and Tottenham manager José Mourinho after a defeat saying: “If I speak I am in big trouble. Big, big trouble.”

In case anyone was in any doubt about what Carlsen meant, it was clarified by Hikaru Nakamura, the world’s No 1 “blitz” player, on his immensely popular chess stream on Twitch: “Magnus would never do this in a million years ... He’s the ultimate competitor ... He wouldn’t do this unless he really, strongly believes Hans is cheating ... I think he just thinks Hans is cheating. Straight out.”

Nakamura went on to assert that Niemann had previously been banned from playing online after being accused of cheating. “That is not up for debate. That is a known fact.”

Actually, not everyone did know that – but Carlsen clearly did, and it seems to have weighed on his mind.

In online chess, cheating is rife, since it is all but impossible to guarantee that a player is not using a computer program. The main platforms, such as Chess.com and Lichess, have anti-cheating software, which alerts organisers when a competitor has played all the recommended computer moves without any deviation. Last year, having been defeated in a game on Lichess, I later got a notification that my lost rating points were being restored because cheating by my opponent had been detected – although I had made no complaint after the game.

But how, hunkering over a real-life chessboard – and in a tournament like the Sinquefeld Cup, where the players are filmed throughout – can cheating

take place undetected? Well, it is possible for a player to have a minuscule wireless receiver buried in his inner ear, through which he could receive the best computer moves via an aide outside the playing hall. That aide would not need to be in the same room: he could be miles away, watching the live feed of the event and inputting the moves into one of a number of chess programmes infinitely stronger than any human, before verbally transmitting the “answer” to the player.

Exactly this form of cheating took place in a game between two Indian players in a tournament in Delhi in 2015, enabling a much weaker player, Dhruv Kakkar, to beat the grandmaster Pravin Thipsay. After the game Thipsay alerted the tournament organisers to his suspicions about his opponent’s manner at the board, and the astonishing accuracy of the moves: the device was detected and the cheat thrown out.

This helps explain what happened to one England player in this year’s chess Olympiad in Chennai in India. Before a match against Austria, the organisers insisted that the grandmaster Luke McShane – holder of the unofficial title of the world’s strongest amateur – submit to a scan of his head. McShane objected strongly. Not because he felt he was being suspected of anything – he understood this was a random check – but because he didn’t like the idea of his brain being exposed to some form of radiation.

He told me: “You are supposed to limit your exposure to such things. But when I pushed back, I was given grief. In the end, after insisting that we see the manual for the device, to check what was safe, and it was turned down to the lowest level, I agreed to my head being scanned for about a second.”

At the Sinquefeld Cup the players are given a body scan before each round – but not the head scan randomly employed in the Chennai Olympiad. Yet, other than Carlsen’s suspicion and the fact that Niemann was found to have cheated online in the past, is there any evidence that the young American had been using some such device, or any other form of foul play, to beat the world champion? Carlsen has not elaborated since his gnomic tweet on Monday.

So all we can do is to subject the moves of the Carlsen-Niemann game to computer analysis. If the winner did indeed play 100 per cent – or even 99 per cent – “computer best moves”, there may be cause to support Carlsen’s imputation.

But that was not the case. The Brazilian grandmaster Rafael Leitão was one of many to carry out this exercise, not just on Niemann’s victory over Carlsen but also on the American’s second-round defeat of the world’s No 10 player, Shakriyar Mamedyarov of Azerbaijan, who had made no accusation after his loss. Leitão tweeted: “I carefully analysed with powerful [chess computer] engines Niemann’s two victories. I didn’t find ANY hint of outside help. He went wrong where humans would go wrong.” That’s the point: Niemann’s play was far from flawless.

The strongest defence of Niemann came from someone who gave a week’s



Magnus Carlsen, in light blue shirt, is overwhelmed by his teenage opponent in St Louis, Missouri

“It must be embarrassing for him to lose to an idiot like me

training to the teenage American last year. This is the Danish-born Scottish grandmaster Jacob Aagaard, who runs a programme for would-be chess champions in Glasgow. Under the pointed headline “Paranoia and insanity”, Aagaard wrote on his blog: “Hans came to visit in 2021 ... I was astonished by his memory. I was astonished by his intuition. Both were off the charts.” Bear in mind that Aagaard trains grandmasters, so he is saying that Niemann has an extraordinary talent, capable of beating the world champion, whom he accused of “entitlement, lack of responsibility, lack of accountability”. And the former world champion Anatoly Karpov told a Russian news agency: “I watched the game and I have to say that Carlsen just played extremely badly. I reject all [accounts] of an unfair win.”

A day after Carlsen, backed up by one of America’s greatest players, had effectively threatened to make him a chess pariah for life, Niemann gave an interview to the tournament website. Or rather a monologue of extraordinary intensity. He admitted that he had cheated on an online platform in a tournament – when he was 12. He also confessed to cheating, when he was 16 years old, in “random chess games” – that is, not part of any tournament – on Chess.com. “I was confronted. I confessed. And I am completely ashamed ... I know my actions have consequences and I suffered those consequences ... I stopped playing in all events and I lost a lot of close friendships.”

He went on to say that he had never cheated in an “over the board” game, and then, almost shouting: “I am not going to let Magnus Carlsen, I am not going to let Hikaru Nakamura, simply slander my reputation.” I believe that Niemann is telling the truth, including when he said he would “strip fully naked” before each round in the rest of the tournament, if required. Which helped inspire Elon Musk to tweet: “You can almost hear that snap of the rubber glove before chess match cavity searches.” That, at least, will not happen. And if the tournament organisers thought Carlsen was really on to something, they would surely have taken action against Niemann – which they have not.

So why did the normally ultra-rational Carlsen make such a wild accusation? One of the top grandmasters in the event, Levon Aronian, observed: “When young players play very well, there are always accusations against them, all my colleagues are pretty much paranoid.” Carlsen may also be in mental turmoil, having recently taken the decision not to defend his title in the World Chess Championship next year – though he is not retiring from the game. And Niemann had got under Carlsen’s usually thick skin. He won a “rapid game” against the world champion last month and afterwards told a waiting interviewer, “chess speaks for itself”, before stalking off. And in his interview after his victory last week against Carlsen, Niemann remarked: “It must be embarrassing for the world champion to lose to an idiot like me.”

All of Carlsen’s other opponents treat him with great respect. Not Niemann, whose approach is almost primordially aggressive: he makes no secret of wanting to “kill the king”. He remarked with compelling honesty last week that “spite” had been a “strong fuel” for him. Compared with cheating, that is sporting purity.

Dominic Lawson is president of the English Chess Federation

## Bard of Cheshire rues dying language

Liam Kelly

Even when he was starting out as a novelist in his twenties, Alan Garner worried about dying before he had written his books. “It’s a neurosis I’ve always had since I started: that I wouldn’t live long enough to finish,” Garner, 87, said. “Which was bizarre then, but has grown less bizarre now.”

A full 65 years after releasing his first novel, Garner is receiving overdue critical recognition: his latest book, *Treacle Walker*, is one of six vying to win this year’s Booker prize. He is the oldest author to be shortlisted in the Booker’s 53-year history and is best known for classics such as *The Weirdstone of Brisingamen* and *The Owl Service*. The £50,000 prize will be awarded on October 17, his 88th birthday.

*Treacle Walker* is a fantastical story set in the first half of the 20th century in which a young boy living alone meets a mysterious rag-and-bone man, comes across a bog creature whose dreams may be reality and is chased by comic book characters who leap off the pages.

In page terms it is one of the smallest Booker shortlists in years, and Garner said that readers were not picking up doorstoppers as they used to. “We’re losing our attention span, and our language is being lost among the young,” he said. “The ways of storytelling are getting shorter.” *Treacle Walker* has only about 15,000 words.

Despite publishing 27 novels, short story collections and other books, Garner does not read modern literature for fear of plagiarising, consciously or otherwise. “I have the unavoidable ability to steal ideas like a magpie,” he said. Instead he reads poetry and said the person he is “nearest to emotionally, sociologically and historically” is the former poet laureate Ted Hughes.

Garner grew up in Alderley Edge, Cheshire. He won a free place at Manchester Grammar School and was the first in his family to go to university, reading classics at Magdalen College, Oxford.

He has often been pigeonholed as a children’s author or fantasy writer, two labels he resists. “I have never ‘written for children,’” he said. “I’d write for anybody who wants to read the stuff, basically.”

Other than the Carnegie Medal for *The Owl Service* in 1967, he has not troubled the big literary awards. So how does it feel to be recognised so long after he wrote his first novel? “I’m just very pleased a group of admirable people have found a thing that is worth paying attention to.” @IAMLiamKelly

## Arrogant scientists feel they’ve ‘helped women enough’, says Countdown’s stand-in genius

Ben Spencer Science Editor

When the maths genius Anne-Marie Imafidon, 33, stepped in to cover Rachel Riley’s maternity leave on *Countdown* last year, she received a mixed reaction. “There was a backlash because people had never seen a black woman do maths before,” she said. “They thought I was a diversity hire. Is it because I was young? Is it because I was female? Is it because I was black?”

But then came the counter-reaction, a huge groundswell of support from fans pointing out her achievements. And there were many.

Imafidon was a computing and maths child prodigy. She passed A-levels in computing and maths at the age of 11. At 20 she received a master’s in mathematics and computer science from Oxford. She sits on the council of Research England and was appointed an MBE at just 27.

Now Imafidon has been appointed president of the British Science Association and will give the presidential address to the British Science Festival in Leicester on Friday. Her theme will be inequality in the science and tech worlds, and the barriers faced by young people from marginalised communities.

For the past decade Imafidon has run Stemettes, a social enterprise that helps young women get into studying Stem subjects:

science, technology, engineering and maths. Imafidon, whose book *She’s in CTRL*, which sets out “how women can take back tech”, was published last Thursday, insists science still has an equality problem despite improvements. “When I started there wasn’t even lip service,” she said. “There has definitely been progress but there’s a pushback from a few people in science. It’s not overt, but there’s a feeling that



Imafidon was a child prodigy

“What you’ve had is enough – we’ve helped enough.” The pandemic, she said, exposed an arrogant side to science – the idea of “following the science” gives the impression there exists a single, correct idea. “There’s a humility that we need to see across the industry,” she said. “The fact is we haven’t got all the answers.” This ends up playing out in prejudice. “I still hear horror stories from young Stemettes who go to open days and find

academics are surprised that they’ve turned up at the engineering department. They say, ‘You’ve come to the wrong building’, or ‘You’ll be the only one in physics – girls don’t do well’.” It is not just about gender or ethnicity. “When I talk about diversity, it’s not just in what we’d call the protected characteristics. It’s in diversity of perspectives. It’s in diversity of experiences.” Imafidon acknowledges that she does not represent

all those diversities: “I am proud of my east London accent, but I’m privileged.” Her father is an academic and she and her four siblings were encouraged to study at a young age. “I had this accelerated child-prodigy journey,” she said. She admits *Countdown* was initially daunting. “The 75 times table doesn’t feature anywhere on the maths syllabus,” Imafidon said. “And, you know, it’s a critical part of the numbers round.”



# Liberators seize back towns as Russians scatter in disarray

Ukraine surprised occupying forces in the northeast but more strategically important battles lie ahead

MATTHEW CAMPBELL



Ukraine last night claimed to have inflicted a crippling blow on Russian forces with a lightning push through enemy-occupied territory in the northeast that has liberated strategic towns and villages in what could prove a turning point in the war.

Military analysts said Russia appeared to have been caught by surprise, describing the collapse of its front line in the northeast as the most significant shift in Ukraine's favour since the end of March, when Moscow's forces retreated in disarray from the region around Kyiv.

"It's of historic importance," said Sir Lawrence Freedman, professor of war studies at King's College London. "It might be a tipping point, we don't know quite how this will work out but there's a lot of panic and anxiety among Russian troops right now."

Social media was awash with images of Ukrainian civilians lining the streets of their villages shouting "thanks boys!" as their "liberators" drove past; and of a bedraggled Russian army in retreat with burnt-out vehicles bearing the "Z" symbol of the invasion, boxes of ammunition and other kit abandoned on roads. It was not known how many Russian soldiers had been killed, wounded or captured.

Natalia Popova, a regional official, posted photos of troops raising the nation's flag over Kupiansk, an important railway hub and one of Russia's key supply routes to the east.

Russia's Tass news agency said that the defence ministry had ordered its troops to leave the area around the city of Izium, Moscow's main stronghold and logistics centre in the northeast, to reinforce military operations elsewhere in neighbouring Donetsk.

In London, the Ministry of Defence said earlier in an intelligence update that the Russian force at Izium "is likely increasingly isolated" and added that the capture of Kupiansk would be "a significant blow to Russia because it sits on supply routes to the Donbas front line".

Kyiv appears to have taken advantage of Russia's redeployment of some of its best troops from the northeast to the southern city of Kherson, the focus of a much-advertised Ukrainian offensive that began just over a week ago. This left Russian positions in the northeast thinly held and vulnerable.

Ukraine punched through them: President Zelensky claimed that at least 30 "settlements" had been liberated in the Kharkiv region since the offensive began on Tuesday.

"The Ukrainians saw an opportunity and did a very good job to seize it," said General Sir Richard Barrons, a former British Army commander.

"It's good news they're on the offensive, showing the Russians can be beaten. It's very bad for Russian morale in the military and at home."

He sounded a note of caution, however. "There will be exuberance, overselling. But Russia still sits on 20 per cent of Ukrainian territory. The battle for Kherson is what really matters strategi-



Ukrainian troops recaptured the city of Kupiansk as they took back territory from Putin's forces

“It shows Russia can be beaten

cally," he said, referring to the southern city, a gateway to Crimea and ports on the Black Sea. "This is going to go on for some time."

Freedman called Ukraine's offensive "quite spectacular" and predicted it would have "knock-on effects" such as undermining Russian propaganda.

"It wouldn't surprise me if things carried on moving quite quickly now, these things have a momentum of their own," he said.

"All those people nagging at the Ukrainians to accept negotiations, that doesn't look so good now."

Moscow acknowledged that its front line had collapsed in the Kharkiv region but said that it was rushing reinforcements to the area.

Russian-installed regional officials had called for civilians to evacuate the cities of Kupiansk and Izium. Vitaly Ganchev, a Russia-appointed official, admitted on Friday that Ukraine had won what he called a "significant victory".

Ukrainians commentators were ecstatic. Illia Ponomarenko, a reporter for the Kyiv Post, called the apparent rout "one of the most spectacular f\*\*\*-ups in Russian military history".

Vladimir Putin, the Russian president,

has yet to refer to any battlefield setbacks. He was seen inaugurating a new ferris wheel in Moscow yesterday, saying, with a laugh: "140m tall, there's nothing like it in Europe" – it is 5m taller than the London Eye.

The rout in northeastern Ukraine was not the only bad news for Putin.

It emerged that a group of district council members in St Petersburg, his home city, had called for him to be charged with treason and removed from office in a rare domestic protest against the war in Ukraine.

Predictably, the councillors were informed by police that they were facing legal charges "due to actions aimed at discrediting the government".

Ukraine's rapid advance in the east is by far its most striking success in months after a long period in which the war seemed to have turned into a slow and relentless grind along entrenched front lines.

It came a week after Kyiv had begun its long-awaited counteroffensive to take back Russian-occupied territory at the other end of the front line, hundreds of miles to the south in Kherson.

Less information has been made public about that operation, although

“The key battle remains Kherson

Ukraine has claimed some success in cutting supply routes to thousands of Russian troops on the west bank of the Dnipro river. "We see success in Kherson now, we see some success in Kharkiv and so that is very, very encouraging," Lloyd Austin, the US defence secretary, said on Thursday.

Mark Hertling, a retired four-star general and former commander of US ground forces in Europe, tweeted: "Make no mistake, Ukraine is executing a brilliant manoeuvre focused on terrain objectives to 'bag' Russians.

"But the Russians are helping them – by doing very little to counter."

Speaking about the Ukrainian offensive at the Nato headquarters in Brussels on Friday, Antony Blinken, America's secretary of state, said: "The initial signs are positive, and we see Ukraine making real, demonstrable progress in a deliberate way."

He, too, sounded a note of caution, however: "This is likely to go on for some significant period of time.

"There are a huge number of Russian forces in Ukraine, and unfortunately, tragically, horrifically, President Putin has demonstrated that he will throw a lot of people into this at huge cost to Russia."

## Baseball fans get mitts on fine wine

**Keiran Southern**  
Los Angeles

It has been a far from vintage year for the San Francisco Giants baseball team but at least the season is ending with the promise of vintages to come – as spectators and players will soon be able to lift their spirits with a fine bottle of chardonnay or perhaps a full-bodied cabernet sauvignon while watching the game or relaxing afterwards, as chosen for them by a world-leading expert.

The Giants have become the first US professional sports team to hire a master sommelier after Evan Goldstein, a lifelong fan and season-ticket holder, joined to oversee its wine offering.

Goldstein is one of fewer than 300 master sommeliers in the world. His new role will include conducting wine-tasting sessions for Giants fans and assisting with the selection on offer at the Oracle Park stadium.

"Wine, like baseball, is an experience – it creates and impacts memories and brings people together," Goldstein said. "Delicious wines can be mainstream and accessible – as happy alongside a hot dog as a premium steak."

Goldstein's appointment is evidence of the gentrification of baseball, said Nathan Corzine, author of *Team Chemistry: The History of Drugs and Alcohol in Major League Baseball*. "Baseball and wine to my knowledge have no real connection," the historian said. "Culturally baseball is a beer-drinking, peanut-eating, blue-collar game. I never associated wine with it at all."

Many of baseball's most celebrated heroes were heavy drinkers. Babe Ruth, arguably the greatest player of all time, had a notorious thirst for booze, and there are stories of him having a night on the town before a game only to still dominate the opposition.

Mickey Mantle, the revered New York Yankees switch-hitter of the 1950s and 1960s, suffered from alcoholism and died of liver cancer.

But modern athletes appear more likely to dip into the business side of alcohol rather than drink it to excess. Dwyane Wade, the retired NBA player, owns a label in Napa called Dwade Cellars, while Ayesha Curry, wife of the Golden State Warriors basketball star Steph Curry, also has her own label.

"Years ago, no current athlete wanted to be associated with alcohol," Goldstein told the San Francisco Chronicle. "Now, everyone has a tequila or a wine label. Wine has very much become a currency of successful people in athletics."

# Punchy Biden fires up party for round two with Trump

**David Charter** Washington

The audience in the East Room of the White House beamed with delight as the speaker said: "Our democracy is so much stronger than our differences."

"Some folks might want us to believe that [the American] story has lost some of its shine, that division and discrimination and everything else might have dimmed its light. I still know deep in my heart that what we share . . . is so much bigger than what we don't."

Michelle Obama, back at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue with her husband last Wednesday for the unveiling of their official portraits, was living up to her most famous phrase: "When they go low, we go high." The speech earned the former first lady and many Democrats' fantasy presidential candidate a thunderous round of applause.

The current president has recently taken a different approach. In a speech at Independence Hall in Philadelphia six days earlier, Joe Biden warned his countrymen that "Donald Trump and the Maga [Make America great again] Republicans represent an

extremism that threatens the very foundations of our republic". The week before, he accused them of "semi-fascism".

It is a dramatic change of tactics from a president who took office vowing to put his "whole soul" into uniting America. His aggressive move has worried some in his party, rallied Republicans and redefined the battleground for November's midterm elections, which will decide control of Congress, as well as two in three state governorships.

The summer saw political momentum swing back to the Democrats, following the Supreme Court's overturning of the federal right to abortion; legislative triumphs for the president; infighting among Republicans over the choice of some prominent candidates; and the FBI raid on Mar-a-Lago that discovered top-secret papers, including 48 empty folders, in Trump's possession. Now analysts agree that Biden, 79, is taking a big risk.

David Axelrod, a former adviser to President Obama, doubted the timing of the move in his *Hacks on Tap* politics podcast, asking: "Is it helpful for Biden to reinsert himself in the centre ring? When your opponents are



Michelle Obama, unveiling her official portrait, has been more tactful than President Biden

“He wants to excite voters to ensure a good turnout

destroying themselves, should you just let them do that?"

Some Democrats fear that Biden's remarks will rebound on the party in an echo of Hillary Clinton's miscalculation in 2016 when she branded Trump voters a "basket of deplorables", only to see the phrase weaponised by her opponents as an elitist slur and embraced as a badge of honour by many ordinary Americans.

Biden has more hard evidence of the threat from Trump's supporters than

Clinton did, not least the Capitol riot, but the media landscape today is also more split into silos, including many that the president's speech will not penetrate.

Trump, 76, immediately sought to exploit Biden's words. He told a rally in Pennsylvania on September 3 that Biden gave "the most vicious, hateful, and divisive speech ever delivered by an American president, vilifying 75 million citizens", referring to the vote total he claims to have received in 2020.

There was almost unified

condemnation across the conservative spectrum as Republicans sensed a chance to change the midterm weather after a series of polls showing Democrats narrowing the gap for control of Congress. Buck Sexton, the co-host of one of the country's most popular radio talk shows, said: "Joe Biden is desperately trying to walk back his Darth Biden speech from last week and trying to convince people he doesn't hate all Republicans."

Yet some Democrats have welcomed the new pugilistic approach. The alternative, they argue, would have been to overlook ever-increasing provocations to the rule of law: on the morning of Biden's address Trump said he was "very strongly" considering, if he returned to the White House, "full pardons, with an apology to many" who rioted at the US Capitol.

In the White House, the calculation was that there are moderate conservatives and independent voters who want to hear an aggressive defence of democracy.

Joe Caiazzo, a Democratic operative who worked on the presidential campaigns of Hillary Clinton in 2016 and Bernie Sanders in 2020, said: "I've seen a lot of polling

indicating that democracy issues are a concern. There are Republican candidates for [state-level] secretary of state in some parts of the country that basically want to say, 'Hey, you know what, we'll throw out what the voters say, and I'll pick a winner.' I think when Biden is held up against the alternative of Donald Trump and his cronies, it reminds people why Biden won."

One veteran observer of US elections believes Biden got it right. "[He] was well within the bounds of acceptable political speech, especially since Trump and his base still insist, falsely, that he won in 2020 and should be reinstated immediately. The

continuing threat of violence is high," said Larry Sabato, director of the University of Virginia Centre for Politics.

"Biden's political intention was clear – excite Democratic voters to ensure a good turnout. The president wants to make 2022 the second round of the Biden versus Trump prizefight."

Biden knows that it is better to have voters focused on Trump than on his own mistakes over Afghanistan, the porous southern border and the economy.

Trump is a willing accomplice, perhaps believing that the more attention he attracts as a potential candidate, the less likely the justice department is to bring charges over his top-secret records.

Sabato added: "Abortion rights and Trump are the two factors keeping Democrats competitive in an election they were supposed to lose badly."

"Why will this speech not equal Clinton's 'deplorables' remark? Republicans were already at about 70 per cent on the polling measure of 'excited to participate in the election'. Now Democrats have matched them. Two months to go."





# NEWS REVIEW

At the start of last summer, my 13-year-old daughter Martha was busy with life. She'd meet her friends in the park, make silly videos on her phone and play “kiss, marry, kill”. Her days were filled with books and memorising song lyrics. She'd wonder aloud if she might become an author, an engineer or a film director. Her future was brimming with promise, crowded with plans.

By the end of the summer she was dead, after shocking mistakes were made at one of the UK's leading hospitals.

What follows is an account of how Martha was allowed to die, but also what happens when you have blind faith in doctors – and learn too late what you should have known to save your child's life. What I learned, I now want everyone to know. In a small way, I hope Martha's story might change how some people think about healthcare; it might even save a life.

I am a fierce supporter of the principles of the NHS and realise how many excellent doctors are practising today. There's no need for the usual political arguments: as the hospital in question has confirmed to me, what happened to Martha had *nothing* to do with insufficient resources or overstretched doctors and nurses; it had nothing to do with austerity or cuts, or a health service under strain.

No matter how many times I'm told that “it was the doctors' job to look after Martha”, I know, deep down, that had I acted differently, she'd still be living, and my life would not now be broken. It's not that I think I'm to blame: the hospital has admitted breach of duty of care and talked of a “catastrophic error”. But if I'd been more aware of how hospitals work and how some doctors behave, my daughter would be with me now.

As another bereaved parent told me, life after the death of your child is like being on an island, separate from the mainland where the “normal people” live. You so badly want to go back there but you never can. You're stuck on the island for ever.

I had booked a cottage on the outskirts of Snowdonia national park. It was a small, old farmhouse with low-slung beams and no wi-fi or phone reception; parking was at the bottom of a hill on which sheep grazed. We ferried our bags to the door in a wheelbarrow, which Martha and her younger sister, Lottie, wanted rides in, too. Our first day was sunny: we went bodyboarding on Barmouth beach and Martha and I painted the valley view from the cottage. We had a meal in a pub, played cards – everything was holiday-easy, filled with light.

On the second day, we rented bikes and set out on a well-known cycle path: nine miles of old railway line, to the beach and back. A guide to the area described the route as “scenic, flat and family-friendly”. On the way, Martha rode alongside me and I remember we talked about body hair (she wanted to know if she should shave her armpits). We swam in the sea, ate crab sandwiches and chips. But soon after we started back on our bikes, Martha slipped on a patch of sand that had blown from the beach on to the path. She was cycling slowly – “Captain Sensible” was our nickname for her – but she fell, and was soon making the zombie sounds of someone badly winded.

The path was busy with other cyclists, so she crawled to the edge. As we waited for her to recover, another family with a much younger child cycled by. This girl also skidded on the sand but wobbled and stayed upright, so the family continued on their way. No doubt they will never think of that moment again.

Martha felt no better, so we took her to a minor injuries unit. When she raised her T-shirt for examination, we saw a red ring on her stomach: as she fell, she had landed with the full weight of her body on one end of her twisted handlebars. There was no blood or cut, only the O-shaped mark.

The nurse described the injury on the phone to a doctor who said he didn't need to see Martha – it was probably internal bruising – and prescribed paracetamol. I wondered whether to make a fuss and insist the doctor look at her; I didn't and we went back to the cottage. But by 2am Martha was sick and in pain, so we decided we must take her to A&E. “I can't make it down the hill to the car,” she said, but Paul, her dad, pushed her in the wheelbarrow, trying to navigate the bumps while Lottie held up a phone as a torch. We manoeuvred Martha into the car as gently as we could.

At Bronglais hospital in Aberystwyth, they agreed to run tests and keep her in overnight for observation. I still imagined this was just a precaution, but at dawn a doctor with a serious expression told us that Martha probably had pancreatic trauma: she had fallen with such force that her pancreas had been pushed against her spine, causing a laceration.

I knew immediately that the injury was serious, but had absolute faith in the system. Two years of Covid had seen us talk endlessly to the girls about how lucky we were to have the NHS. Martha and Lottie painted rainbows with the words “Thank You” and put them in our window. For a few weeks we stood outside the door on Thursdays and joined the communal clapping; Martha banged a pan with a wooden spoon.

I was so confident in her recovery that I started taking photos – they would be props when she told the story of her summer misadventure. The first captures her curled asleep in the blue wash light of her Aberystwyth hospital room. In the next, she is outside the helicopter that took us



“  
Her laugh was a gift

“We had such trust, we feel such fools  
How shocking hospital mistakes led to our daughter's death

Martha was 13; her whole life stretched out ahead of her. But our faith in doctors turned out to be fatal. This is what I wish I'd known.  
By Merope Mills

over the Brecon Beacons to the University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff. The paramedic is leaning over her shoulder and they are both giving a cheerful wave to the camera.

At Cardiff, Martha was taken to intensive care and hooked up to the kind of bleeping monitors I knew only from TV dramas. She had one-to-one nursing – a nurse was with her all the time, standing behind a kind of lectern at the foot of her bed. None of us had been hospitalised before and I was frantic, but one of the doctors gripped me by the shoulders: “It's going to be a tricky couple of days – but she'll be fine.”

I was already Googling. Pancreatic trauma, in adults, is usually seen alongside other organ damage in victims of car crashes or shootings: I thought of the “O” on her stomach – a bullet wound without the bullet. In children, it's most often associated with bike injuries – BMX jumps and stunts gone wrong. What matters is identifying the injury quickly, before corrosive juices escaping the pancreas cause too much damage. I was so relieved we'd made our middle-of-the-night dash to the hospital.

From Cardiff, Martha was helicoptered to King's College Hospital in London – one of three specialist centres in England that deal with pancreatic injuries in children. There she was installed on Rays of Sunshine ward which, as the nurses told us, is well funded, through a combination of NHS money, donations and the fees of private patients who come from around the world.

Martha had a glass cubicle with a TV; the ward had new equipment and a playroom – some children, including liver transplant patients, stay there a long while. “You are in the best place,” we were repeatedly told. Plastered around the walls were posters for the Great Hospital Hike – a September fundraiser for King's, which I resolved to sign up to, in thanks. “We are so lucky to be here,” Paul and I said to each other.

It turned out, however, that Martha was cosmically unlucky. Her injury was treatable: she became the first child on record at King's to die of it – after the care for her became careless. Her preventable death is an example of what a hospital official described to us, in a barbarous phrase, as a “poor outcome”. I will spend decades asking: why was my child the one to suffer such an unlikely fate?

I became pregnant with Martha at the age of 29 and it all happened so fast I wasn't sure it was the right thing. I loved my job, I was enjoying life – the parties, the freedom. I worried I might be too selfish to be a parent, that a baby might cramp my style. But when she emerged, battered and bruised from being round the wrong

way inside me, I was instantly changed. As I told a friend at the time, I felt I had been punched in the face by love.

She was such an easy baby, people told Paul and I we were great parents. Naturally we took the compliment, but the truth is she just came out that way – sanguine and content. “I'm as jolly as a jolly-bird,” she used to say when young, and that summed up her temperament nicely.

On Rays of Sunshine, Paul and I would take turns to spend 24 hours at Martha's side, sleeping next to her on a foldaway bed. We were told every day that her recovery was never in doubt: it was just a matter of time and patience. After a fortnight, she was walking down the corridor and friends came to visit. One doctor told her: “I'm going on holiday, and I hope not to see you when I'm back.” We got used to the routine on the ward: nurses taking observations, the early morning blood test, the travails of the boy in the next-door cubicle who also had pancreatic trauma from a handlebar accident. We put pictures of our cat on the cubicle walls.

I grabbed snacks on the ground floor of the hospital. On my way down there one day, I saw two women shouting in rage. “Fackin' murderers,” one screamed, her hands cupped around her mouth. She wanted everyone to hear. “Let's get away from the f\*\*\*ing killers,” shouted the other, as they headed for the exit. I recoiled, and instinctively took the side of the doctors.

Martha was nil by mouth and given milky formula through a tube up her nose. With no meals to break up the tedium of hospital days, she would stare longingly at pictures of lasagne and roast potatoes on her phone. On the breaks from her milk feed, I'd run her a bath and mix in bath salts from home to give her a hit of luxury. She'd soak in the tub and her brown hair would fan out behind her in the water – the tips blond where I had dip-dyed them at the start of the summer. I'd wash it for her, as I did for so many years when she was young.

We often saw a different consultant each day, and now and then would wonder who had overall responsibility for Martha's care: I wish now we'd done more than wonder. Every morning, during the ward round, we'd ask the consultants questions about how the treatment worked. We tried to be articulate and grateful – these were the experts and we wanted to bring out the best in them. It turns out we were judged in the medical notes: “Mum and Dad pleasant and helpful,” reads one entry.

The consultants swooped in, and were ostentatiously deferred to by the junior doctors. They were chatty, assertive, grand. We heard about a research paper one especially self-regarding surgeon – I'll call him “Prof Bow Tie” – was due to give in Athens; he posted the view from his luxury hotel on Instagram a couple of days after Martha died.

Following the ward round, Martha was looked after each day by junior doctors. They seemed young, but carried themselves with confidence, so I assumed they knew everything about Martha's care. I was so naïve I didn't even realise they were training.

Among the Get Well Soon cards and gifts sent to Martha was a reversible toy octopus that could be flipped to have a happy or sad face: she began to use it to mark her good and bad days. A few weeks into her time on the ward, on the weekend of August 21-22, she developed a fever. The octopus was frowning and Martha said she was scared. For the umpteenth time, I praised her bravery and promised her there'd be another side to this. “This is a great hospital,” I told her. She lay shivering, had constant diarrhoea and would retch, spitting the nothingness in her stomach into cardboard bowls we'd hold under her face.

The doctors prescribed antibiotics and said they would get rid of the infection within 72 hours. “What happens if they don't work?” Martha asked. “They will,” she was told. “But what happens if they don't?” “They will.” We gave her ice-packs for her temperature and hot-water bottles for her back pain. She'd wander into the corridor to stand under the air conditioning vent, dropping her head backwards so she could feel the rush of cold on her face. I would put my arm around her shoulders to guide her back to bed.

Short-lived infections, we knew, could happen during her treatment. But on Wednesday Martha's fever was still there. And something else, even more worrying: she started to bleed from both the line in her arm and the tube from her abdomen. The blood oozed through her bandages and soaked through her pyjamas and sheets. This bleeding, we found out after she died, is very rare for her injury and a recognised sign of severe sepsis.

While the doctors knew she had sepsis, they never used that word when talking to Paul or me – just “infection”. I wish they had, because I would then have found out more. I was told merely that Martha's “clotting abilities were slightly off”, which was “a normal side-effect of infection”.

Hospitals use a guide to help doctors and nurses decide when to raise concerns about child patients, called BPEWS – it stands for Bedside Paediatric Early Warning Score and involves heart rate, temperature, blood pressure and other measures. We later found out that on Wednesday Martha's BPEWS was six – a high score – and that there should have been a discussion about transfer to intensive care.

But Martha stayed on the ward and carried on bleeding. The medical notes say I was “very distressed”, but all the

Continued on page 22 ➔



War stories are usually about what happened. The story of Colditz, by contrast, is largely a tale of inactivity, a long procession of duplicate days when little of note occurred, punctuated by moments of intense excitement, absurd comedy and acute peril.

Early in the war, the mighty 11th-century castle in eastern Germany was converted into Oflag IVC, a prisoner of war camp for captured Allied officers who had already tried to escape from other camps. The German High Command believed that corralling all the most difficult PoWs into one place would make them easier to control. This proved to be a major miscalculation.

The prisoners' existence followed a set pattern: morning roll call, breakfast in their quarters, dishwashing and tidying, study for a few, the midday meal when the cookhouse bell rang and rations were collected from the German kitchen. Then lying in bed, reading or playing cards until the afternoon roll call, a stoolball match (the game invented in, and unique to, Colditz) or some other sport, more cards, escape-plotting or kit-making for some, tea at four o'clock, then trudging around the courtyard "in the eternal circle". The hours between meals and roll calls were worn away in a cycle of "smoking, sleeping and self-abuse".

After the war, former inmates tended to portray the Colditz prisoner community as a classless, cohesive band of brothers whose shared determination to escape flattened out the distinctions and



Colditz Castle, now a tourist attraction, above the Zwickauer Mulde river

dissonances that divided the world outside. Exactly the reverse was true.

### MASTER AND SERVANT

"The class structure in Colditz was like the class structure of the time," said one new arrival. "There was a working class, who were the soldiers, the orderlies who had to work. Then there were the middle class, officers from minor or major public schools, and then there was an upper class."

One class of prisoner never escaped from Colditz: the lower class. Running through the very heart of Colditz ran a wide and almost unbridgeable social divide. This was a camp for captured officers, but it also contained a fluctuating population of orderlies, ordinary soldier-

prisoners from the "other ranks" employed by the Germans to perform menial tasks and work as servants for their senior officers: cooking, tidying, cleaning, boot-polishing and other chores.

Senior officers each had a personal servant, or batman, while more junior officers shared an orderly, usually one to each mess. They received the same rations as the officers, including Red Cross supplies, but occupied separate quarters. As private soldiers, the lowest rung on the military ladder, they were required to obey the orders of the Germans as well as their own officers, without question.

The orderlies were not invited to take part in escape attempts, and none ever tried. "We didn't even know when the escapes were taking place," said one

orderly. "They'd never involve us."

Today it seems bizarre and unjust that one prisoner should have to serve another; that one man should be permitted to do so on the grounds of rank and class. But under the Geneva Convention every captured officer had a right to be attended by an orderly, as he would if he were free. In the rigidly stratified military hierarchy of the time, an officer was more valuable than a private, and therefore more useful to the war effort if he managed to escape and return to Britain. An officer was not permitted to work, but a private soldier was required to; one therefore served the other.

At the start, most orderlies were reasonably content to be in Colditz. Shining an officer's belt buckle was infinitely preferable to forced labour. "After the copper mines, Colditz was a holiday camp," observed one orderly.

Padre Jock Platt claimed that in Colditz "there are none who regard themselves as being of different clay from the rest", but as the prison filled up, the different strata of British class began to emerge in ever more distinct seams. The officer corps at Colditz was predominantly upper-middle or upper class; the orderlies were almost all working-class men with little formal learning. In the normal circumstances of military life, contact between private soldiers and officers was strictly regulated by tradition, rank and obedience.

But, as in wider society, old habits of subservience were starting to erode: some orderlies resented having to work for other prisoners, whatever their seniority in status. Britain's class war was festering inside Colditz, and in the summer of 1941 it erupted into open conflict.

The orderlies began to complain about having to clear up after messy and demanding officers. The officers, in turn, felt that they were not being accorded proper respect. Padre Platt was particularly outraged at the threat to established social order. He complained that the orderlies monopolised the washbasins and toilets: "Rooms were dirty, insolence was frequent, two of them regularly talked for our benefit about 'revolution' and 'parasites'." As the weather grew hotter, the rebellion simmered, and then boiled over. The insurrection was led by an Irishman named Doherty, "a rebel who tried to stir things up with the other orderlies", according to one of their number. In mid-June, the orderlies went on strike, declaring "they would take orders from no one but the Germans". It was a bizarre standoff, a direct challenge to the traditional master-servant, officer-other ranks relationship, which left the disgruntled officers taking turns to do "the

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS/MARY EVANS PICTURE LIBRARY



work of laying and clearing tables, sweeping floors and so on". Eventually, the mutiny fizzled out: some of the orderlies returned to work, while others, including the ringleader, were shipped out to Stalags and replacements brought in. But it left a residue of mistrust.

### THE PROMINENT ONES

At the opposite end of the social scale were the *prominente* (or prominent ones), "elite" prisoners selected from

PoW camps around the country: the sons of British aristocrats, politicians, senior military figures and members of the royal family. They included Winston Churchill's 25-year-old nephew, Giles Romilly, and two nephews of the king, George VI. Colditz was Germany's most secure PoW camp, and these "special prisoners" were its most closely guarded inmates. Membership of this club brought certain privileges: greater privacy, more space, a gramophone and better food. But the *prominente* knew that their exceptional



Far from being all in it together, PoWs in the notorious German camp reinforced the rigid class structure of British life, with working-class privates waiting hand and foot on public school officers. It even had its own branch of the Bullingdon Club, writes *Ben Macintyre* in an exclusive extract from his new book

# The Colditz VIPs

## ‘Trust the doctors,’ the nurse told me

→ Continued from page 19 doctors told me she'd "turn a corner", and of course I wanted to be reassured. A scan showed a small amount of fluid around her heart – another sign of sepsis, we later discovered. Action was delayed until after the bank holiday weekend and we were told nothing about it.

Severe sepsis is most often dangerous when patients don't make it to intensive care, where it can be treated with powerful drugs and frequent interventions. Martha could easily have gone to paediatric intensive care (PICU), which was just down the corridor and had beds free. But her consultants preferred not to involve PICU.

Living with a child for 14 years, they become a part of you: a year after Martha's death, it's still so hard to break the lovely habit of her. I think of her unwrapping an ordinary present of underwear: she shouted "Knickers!" and threw them up in the air to land on our heads. Her laugh was a gift: there was nothing to match her collapsing into giggles, head thrown back, clutching her stomach. She enjoyed cutting her dad down to size, and would tease him about the time he

cycled his bike into the canal. A romantic, she loved to hear the tale of Paul and me getting engaged. And there was her cello playing, and the songs she wrote, her poems. She mapped out a whole novel at the beginning of the summer, and her notebooks were full of ideas for stories ("The Story of Nothing": "Every book starts with nothing. But in this case, Nothing is a boy. And this story is how Nothing turns into Something...") At Martha's memorial, a school friend of hers said: "For me, there were two sides to Martha – the person who danced with me on the train platform; the one who had fun, sassy arguments in American accents with me; the one who would put a PE bag on her back and call herself a turtle. Then there was the one who quietly sang while I rested on her shoulder on the train home. She would always be there for me, and I would be there for her, too."

The doctors gave Martha lots of clotting products and her bleeding finally stopped on Friday morning. Yet as early as lunchtime she was in tears about her ongoing fever. She no longer wanted to read – she always read – or play Minecraft with friends on her

phone. A fan of Lin-Manuel Miranda, she showed no interest when I suggested we watch his new film.

The doctors didn't know the source of the infection, and the bank holiday weekend was approaching. On weekends, the ward took on a different atmosphere – the corridor was eerily quiet and after ward round the consultants went home, on call. An extended weekend and a persistent fever seemed a worrying combination.

At this point, we made the link ourselves between infection and the worst-case consequence – septic shock, a leading cause of hospital deaths. I searched out that day's consultant and said: "I'm worried Martha is going to go into septic shock on a bank holiday weekend and none of you will be here." The consultant ran her finger down a screen of numbers. "I'm not worried about sepsis," she said. When I went back to the cubicle, Martha looked at me with narrowed eyes. "I heard you talking about septic shock." "Don't worry, my love," I said. "I just need to make sure they're thinking of everything." The consultant's parting words as she left were: "It's just a normal infection."

I was reassured again when the businesslike, blasé head of the team of consultants told Paul on Saturday morning: "This is what it's like with this injury – infections come and go." But Martha's fever continued and later, when she tried to stand, she felt very light-headed and dizzy. Paul told the junior doctors: "This is new."

On Sunday of the bank holiday weekend I was with Martha. I recall that day's ward round, when the

consultant – I'll call him "Prof Checked Shirt" – talked in hushed tones with a surgeon outside Martha's cubicle. We later found out that she was much worse than they were expecting. But they revealed nothing of this to me and I saw neither of them for the rest of the day. Martha was left in the hands of two junior doctors, one – the registrar, whom I'll call "Dr Blunder" – more experienced than the other.

Prof Checked Shirt – an Oxford-educated man in his late fifties with an air of supreme confidence – left for home early in the afternoon. In his absence, when on call, he was to play a pivotal role in Martha's death. By lunchtime, she had unexplained sepsis, a high fever, very low blood pressure and a racing heart. King's later produced a Serious Incident report into why Martha died and its writer told me that she should, at this time, have



Martha died in part because of large egos

been moved to PICU.

But Prof Checked Shirt, in charge that day, didn't once consider such a move. Tellingly, the report revealed high-status consultants on Rays of Sunshine ("level sevens" in the ranking of seniority) had a dismissive attitude to less senior colleagues in PICU ("level fives"). This made them reluctant to do the right thing and involve intensive care: Martha died in part because of inflated egos.

Then, early on Sunday afternoon, she developed an angry red rash; it spread across her legs and neck and torso. A rash is a red flag for sepsis. Yet Dr Blunder – headstrong, with no experience of this kind of situation and despite Martha's other symptoms – somehow convinced himself that the rash was caused by a delayed drug reaction. I made clear to him my anxiety that it was a sepsis rash, but it made no difference.

I left Martha's cubicle to look for an ally and grabbed a nurse: we walked down the corridor together. "I'm worried he's got it wrong. I've been trying to look it up online." The nurse stopped walking and put her hand on my arm. "Don't look things up on the internet," she said, "you'll only worry yourself. Trust the doctors – they know what they're doing." I followed this advice. It turned out to be the worst I will receive in my whole life.

Martha had an unshowy confidence that I admired. By the time she got to secondary school, she hadn't worn a skirt for a couple of years and I was aware that, while trousers were an option for girls, nearly all of them wore



Martha in hospital in Aberystwyth

skirts. I wondered how she would cope. "Should I buy you an insurance skirt just in case?" I asked her. "No," she said, "just the trousers." When she met fellow students before the first term began, they stood comparing notes. "We're going to wear skirts, right?" "Yeah, skirts, definitely." I watched Martha out of the corner of my eye as they all agreed. "I like trousers," she said, quietly. She wore trousers and before long, others did, too.

Martha never got to have a first kiss. She was good friends with a boy in her class, who used to find it funny that her favourite word was "defenestration". There was another boy she was keen on, but we never got to see how that played out. In the hospital, she and I had a chat about gender and sexuality. I asked her, "Do you ever think you might be gay?" She said: "I'm pretty sure I am straight. But who knows – maybe I just haven't met the right woman yet."

Dr Blunder's misdiagnosis of the rash was described as "such a mistake" by the coroner at the inquest into Martha's death. Even unpressured clinicians make

errors, though rarely ones so glaring and cataclysmic. But I'm still mystified about what happened next.

At 5pm, Martha had a score of *eight* on the BPEWS chart. We weren't told, but Dr Blunder phoned Prof Checked Shirt, at home, to tell him. The consultant didn't consider coming in. Though he admits he wasn't at all sure Dr Blunder's diagnosis was correct, he failed to suggest the rash might be caused by sepsis. Dr Blunder spoke to him again later, but it was felt no change in Martha's care was needed. Because of the strict hierarchy that exists in hospitals, no one on the ward took the initiative. She wasn't moved.

When Prof Checked Shirt made his routine call from home that evening to the head of PICU, he painted only a partial picture of Martha's condition. He did not mention her previous bleeding or the fact that the rash she had was new. He was relaying her details "for information only"; intensive care "categorically" should not pay Martha a bedside visit, he said: "no review was needed" and it would increase my anxiety. The hospital's policy dictates that parents being worried is a reason to escalate; he decided the opposite.

The head of PICU could reply only that there was a bed available if needed. He was asked at the inquest whether, had he been given the full picture by Prof Checked Shirt, Martha would have been moved to intensive care. He answered: "Without a doubt, 100 per cent."

After Martha's death, Prof Checked Shirt was very reluctant to use the word

"mistake" to describe his actions, though his error had been identified by colleagues. Other consultants were also at fault: the hospital report concluded that on at least five occasions Martha's care should have involved PICU. Yet at no stage did any doctor let me know that she was in real trouble. I was kept in the dark and condescended to. The focus on my – justified – anxiety reeks of misogyny.

And, unbelievable as it seems to us now, neither Paul nor I knew that intensive care was the right place for Martha to be. We didn't know enough to argue, to challenge, to insist that she should be moved there. So we ended up failing to fulfil the most essential duty of parents – to protect our child when she was in danger. The guilt will always be with me.

That evening shift brought a new junior doctor, who worked alongside Dr Blunder. It was made clear to her that Martha needed "constant monitoring". (After Martha died, the notes from this vital handover mysteriously disappeared from King's computer system.) It was decided not to perform a vital blood test – who knows why; doing so could easily have saved Martha's life. An instruction that she should have one-to-one nursing failed to get carried out.

What's more, this junior doctor ("Dr Do-Nothing") didn't *once* walk down the corridor to visit Martha, to set eyes on the ward's most critically ill patient, even though the nurse passed on worrying observations.

I promised Martha yet again she'd get through this. "You've said that so many times it's become





treatment in Colditz was not a measure of social deference but a cynical calculation: they were bargaining chips, hostages to be cashed in when Hitler felt the need.

Clubs were, and remain, a bizarre British preoccupation. Whenever three or more Englishmen are gathered together, a minimum of two will attempt to form a club from which the others are excluded. Often absurd in ritual, hierarchical and rigorously exclusive, these defining grouplets can be hugely significant to their members, and no one else. In Colditz, the distinct messes evolved into small clubs: the “House of Lords”, the “Kindergarten”, a poker school of “White’s Club types”. The “old school tie” mentality not only persisted but was exacerbated under captivity, as the inmates sought to build a replica of the lives they had known before the war. The Old Etonians, Padre Platt noted, tended to be particularly clannish, to the point of co-ordinating their bodily functions. “They ate together, paced the exercise ground in twos, threes or fours; attended the same lectures; and went to the Abort [loo] together.”

Colditz even had its own Bullingdon Club, modelled on the all-male Oxford University private dining club that has since become a byword for elitist philistinism. The Colditz Bullingdon was “mostly Old Etonians with the necessary ‘old school’ and horsey characteristics,” one member recalled. “We got on wonderfully well.” The Bullingdon is infa-

Lower ranks stand behind Allied officers at Colditz in 1942. On the front row sit an international line-up of generals, an admiral, a major and a colonel

## “The Old Etonians were clannish to the point of co-ordinating their bodily functions

meaningless,” she said. Throughout that night, her thirst was unquenchable. “Water,” she gasped at regular intervals. I refilled bottles – but she couldn’t seem to get enough. “She’s drinking crazy amounts of water,” I told the nurse, more than once. I was exhausted and didn’t realise this was yet another sign of disaster. Still, Dr Do-Nothing decided it wasn’t worth walking a few metres to see my daughter.

At 5.45am, Martha told me she needed the toilet. But as she moved to sit down, her body stiffened and her eyes rolled back in her head. I caught her as she started fitting and convulsing. Her body jerked in my arms and I was barely able to hold her weight as diarrhoea poured out of her. Sepsis happens when the body overreacts to an infection and damages its own organs and tissues: the seizure was caused by not enough blood getting to her brain.

I now panicked for the first time and started screaming: what is wrong with her? After a few moments, she came round and the nurses fussed over her. In tears, I corralled the senior nurse who told me of course my daughter wasn’t going to die and that I should pull myself together. I washed my face and returned to the cubicle. Martha and I were alone together when she hovered her hand above her torso and looked at me with fear in her eyes and quietly said: “It feels like it’s unfixable.” At night, these words wake me in a surge of terror and panic.

It was only when the blood test was finally done that Dr Do-Nothing woke up to the fact that her patient was



Merope Mills with Martha, aged eight, in November 2015

dangerously ill. Martha was taken to intensive care, but arrived there too late to break the cycle of septic shock. That evening, there was a last-ditch transfer to Great Ormond Street children’s hospital for Martha to be attached to a machine that would act as heart and lungs outside her body. But it didn’t work. Martha died in the early hours of Tuesday morning.

I could write pages about the horrors of that last day. Let me simply describe her

move out of Rays of Sunshine, the move that should so obviously have happened before. Martha’s cubicle was suddenly filled with purposeful PICU clinicians. “Please make sure she’s better by Saturday,” I said weakly. “It’s her birthday.” Once in intensive care, Martha had an oxygen mask clamped to her face, but she thought it was an anaesthetic that should be putting her to sleep. “This isn’t working,” she said, pointing at the mask. I tried to tell her it was

oxygen but I’m not sure she heard. Within seconds they forced a tube down her throat; she gagged and her back arched before the strong sedative took hold. *I love you, I love you, I love you*, I said over and over. And suddenly Martha was in a coma from which she would never wake up.

I know many of the details of Martha’s deterioration because of the report, the questions we have put to King’s since her death, and

mous for drunkenly wrecking restaurants and an initiation rite that allegedly includes burning a £50 note in front of a homeless person. In Colditz there were no restaurants, no real money and no horses, but the mere existence of a Bullingdon Club was further evidence of a determination to translate pre-war social norms into the artificial world of prison. Colditz itself was known as the “Bad Boys’ Club”; the prominente represented an even more select society within it (“We were rather cliquy up there,” one said); and the Colditz Bullingdon was the most exclusive subgroup of all, a club within a club within a club.

Beyond class, there were also divisions of military rank, service, nationality, seniority and length of imprisonment. In the public school tradition, new arrivals were frequently mocked and bullied. The new bugs did not accord the old lags the respect the latter felt they deserved. “We thought they were all mad,” said one of the new intake. “They’d been locked up in the same place for far too long and were terrible show-offs.” Even escaping had an internal hierarchy, with veteran escapers at the top.

## THE LEGLESS HERO

In the middle of August 1942, a new prisoner, a 32-year-old with an awkward walk and a distinctive air of authority, entered the castle and sent a ripple of excitement through the camp. Wing Commander Douglas Bader would become the most famous prisoner in Colditz. He was already the most celebrated fighting soldier, on either side, of the entire war. Fame had come to him suddenly by way of an appalling flying accident, leading to the loss of both legs and a lifetime of acute pain. Yet he had taken to the skies again as a highly successful Spitfire ace, before being shot down over northern France: as he ejected, his prosthetic right leg became trapped under the joystick; the violent jerk as he opened his parachute snapped the leather strap holding his leg in place, and Bader floated free.

The famous pilot was treated with elaborate courtesy by his German captors: in an act of bizarre gallantry, they invited the RAF to send a replacement artificial leg. Sure enough, with Goering’s official approval, the unimaginatively named Operation Leg was launched and a new prosthesis was dropped by parachute, along with stump socks, powder, tobacco and chocolate. With two operative legs, Bader repeatedly tried to escape: Germany’s highest-security PoW camp was the obvious place to put him.

Bader died in 1982, aged 72, and in later years raised millions for disability charities. He was supremely brave, able to inspire others to feats of courage they never dreamed possible, but he was also arrogant, domineering, selfish and spectacularly rude, particularly to those he considered of lower status. Many of his closest comrades adored him. The war had made him into a hero. But it also made him insufferable: a man with legs of tin, a heart of oak and feet of clay.

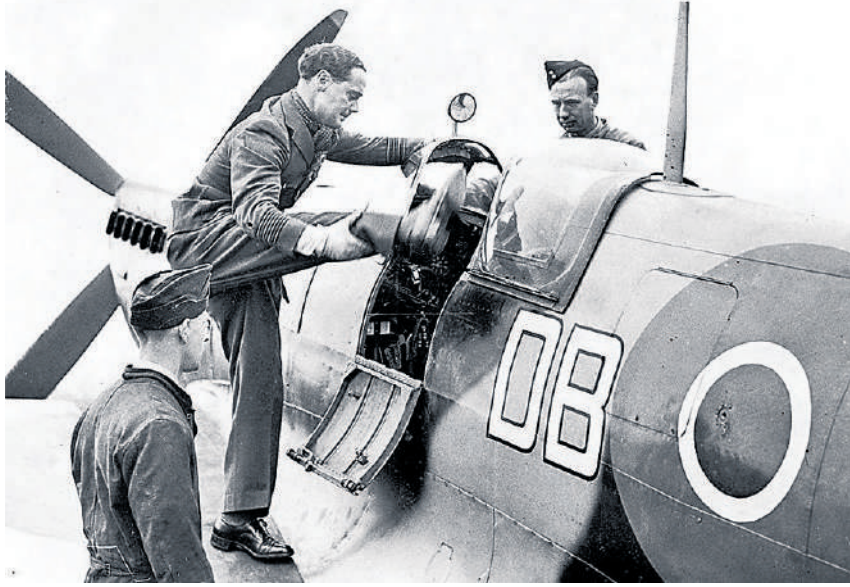
The cobbled slope up from the moat was too steep for Bader’s rigid legs, and so he was pulled into Colditz by his batman, a diminutive, bespectacled 22-year-old Scottish medical orderly named Alex Ross, who also carried Bader’s luggage and spare legs. “Being Bader’s orderly was a 24-hours-a-day job; you had to be at his beck and call all the time. I know he was a very brave man, but he could also be a monster.” Ross’s jobs included serving Bader breakfast in bed every morning. He would then carry the officer on



Giles Romilly, Churchill’s nephew, above, was one of the “prominente” special prisoners. Below, Douglas Bader and Alex Ross, his batman. The amputee flying ace is seen clambering into his Spitfire, bottom picture



ALAMY



## “With Goering’s official approval, Operation Leg was launched and a new prosthesis was dropped by parachute

his back down two flights of winding stairs for his bath, and back up again afterwards. “He was no lightweight,” said Ross. “I did that every day of the week.”

Knotted sheets, secret tunnels and elaborate disguises were not the only way to get out of Colditz. As the war progressed, both sides showed an increased willingness to send prisoners home via a neutral country, and by 1943 some British private soldiers were being selected for repatriation.

In August, Ross was approached by one of the friendlier German officers. “Good news, Ross,” he said. “You’re going home.”

The put-upon batman was overjoyed. “I was very excited at the prospect. It also meant I could get as far away as possible from Bader.” He ran to find the famous flying ace in the courtyard, and breathlessly relayed the news that he would soon be going back to Britain. “No you’re bloody not,” said Bader. “Look here, Ross, you came here as my lackey and you will stay with me as my lackey until we are both liberated. That’s that.” Then he “stomped off”, leaving Ross speechless. “I couldn’t believe that he was stopping me going home. I was nothing to him. Just someone to serve him.” The other orderlies urged Ross to appeal to the Senior British Officer, but so ingrained was the habit of obedience, he simply accepted the injustice. “Looking back, I should have complained. But I didn’t. In those days, you just didn’t go against what an officer said.”

Ross would spend another two years lugging the legless RAF officer up and down stairs for his bath.

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*This is an edited extract from Colditz: Prisoners of the Castle by Ben Macintyre, published on Thursday (Viking £25)*

has been qualified. Junior doctors are often green and trying to stay composed to impress their superiors. Make sure, if you can, that a single consultant has overall responsibility: we all know that if you’re answerable for something, you try harder.

Ignore the advice and look everything up on the internet. Google like crazy, educate yourself, ask questions and, if you are unsure, insist on a second opinion, or a third. Remember that it’s entirely possible you will be “managed” and “reassured” but not told the full truth. We certainly weren’t.

Be aware that much care in hospitals is less thorough at weekends. And understand the damage done by the hierarchical, patrician system – everyone defers to the most senior consultant. If things seem to be going wrong: shout the ward down. In our case, the cost of not doing so

## “It’s hard to break the lovely habit of her

a valiant “battle” with cancer than a death caused by medical mistakes, especially that of a child – the most unfaceable of fears. After Martha died, we received one card that said: “It is what we all dread – and it has happened to you.”

As absurd or insensitive as it seems, I even find myself envious of the circumstances of other children’s deaths. One father whose daughter died of an aggressive bone cancer told me he found comfort in learning that Spain’s football manager had lost his child to the same disease. “If he could do nothing, with all the money and fame at his disposal,” the father told me, “then there was nothing that could be done.” I have no such solace.

I understand the arguments for a “no-blame” or “just culture” NHS; this is not the place to rehearse them. More important is something that’s obvious but doesn’t get said enough: *our trust in doctors should have limits*. Medicine is like any other job: there are many talented workers in the NHS, but also those who are less dedicated and less able. Think of the old medics’ joke: “What do you call the guy who graduated last in his medical school class?” “Doctor.” There are plenty of clinicians prone to arrogance and complacency. Some doctors are “heroes”, but we should stop thinking of them all as such.

However indebted you feel to the NHS, don’t be afraid to challenge decisions if you have good reason to. It’s easy to feel cowed, but hold your ground. Remember most of the doctors in hospitals are just training. Don’t be afraid to ask how long a clinician

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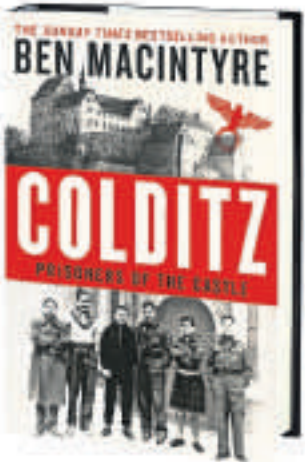
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was too great. We had such trust; we feel such fools.

Now I live on the island. Instead of having Martha in the house, we visit her grave. Some of the inscriptions on the headstones nearby would have amused her: “Philosopher, Teacher, Nudist”, “International Man of Mystery”, “Forever Loved, Always Right”. But the people buried alongside her lived for seven or eight decades. Martha should have walked out of hospital like all the other children with her injury. Now Lottie has an empty bedroom next to hers, and a bench in the park with a plaque: “To my sister.”

I’d like to imagine a world in which Martha was transferred to intensive care in time and her life was saved. In this parallel universe, my daughter makes it to her 14th birthday. I talk endlessly about the doctors and nurses who helped her. I go on that fundraising walk. Bright and determined girl as she was, Martha aces all her exams and goes to a good university. I can just see her, laughing over a drink, getting stuck into student life, having a time of it. “I wonder what I’ll do for my GCSEs,” she wrote in her diary soon after starting secondary school: “It might affect my whole life.” In this fantasy, Martha has a career and the children I knew she one day wanted. She visits us at weekends and we recall those distant weeks when she was in hospital.

Oh, how I would love to live in that world.

*This article originally appeared in The Guardian. Merope Mills is the editor of The Guardian’s Saturday magazine.*





# We know what she stood for. What will we stand for now?

Elizabeth Windsor’s voice first reached the public through the static of a BBC radio programme on October 13, 1940. As London burnt in the Blitz, the future heir to the throne expressed “true sympathy” for the thousands of evacuee children separated from their parents and reassured them that “in the end, all will be well, for God will care for us and give us victory and peace”.

Astutely judged, confidently delivered, that broadcast by a 14-year-old princess in Windsor Castle did more than provide comfort to youngsters far from home. In its own guileless and thoughtful way, it announced the beginning of an extraordinary lifetime of service whose contours are fully comprehensible only now that it has come to an end.

Over the past 48 hours we have watched events never experienced in most of our lifetimes, unfolding on a television or smartphone screen. Yesterday’s elaborate ceremonies, which included live footage from the previously unseen Accession Council, were fascinating, moving and reassuring in equal measure. Fascinating for they gave the watching world an insight into how power is seamlessly transferred in the United Kingdom; moving because the images of a clearly emotional Charles as he was formally proclaimed King Charles III will remain with us for a long time, and reassuring in so much as the coming together of monarchy and the political class is balm for these troubled times. The Buckingham Palace walkabout by the new King and Queen Consort, his carefully crafted address to the nation on Friday and the scenes in Windsor yesterday afternoon are an excellent display of public relations for a family that has soaked up a fair amount of criticism in recent years. But the underlying aim – to project a sense of both continuity and inclusiveness – cannot be faulted.

The Queen sought to embody all those sentiments during her 70-year reign. She was a bridge between the past and the present, a calm and calming presence that connected the Britain of doodlebug bombs and rationing with the Britain of Brexit and iPhones. The selflessness and subtlety with which she guided the nation through the end of empire, the Troubles in Northern Ireland and the political turmoil of the past decade made her a unique leader valued even by republicans. The qualities she epitomised seemed to belong to a bygone era. Yet gentle changes of direction ensured that her relevance never faded. The Queen saw 15 prime ministers and 14 American presidents come and go. She was a majestic constant, a figurehead who rallied spirits and united the nation at times of strife.

The wellspring of her quiet power was as mysterious as the circumstances of her ascent were inauspicious. The abdication of Edward VIII, who chose marriage to the divorcee Wallis Simpson over the throne, was followed by the death of the Queen’s father, George VI, at the age of 56. On his demise, a tearful Winston Churchill, then the prime minister, lamented to one of his private secretaries that the future queen was “only a child”.

Elizabeth II was indeed just 25, but she was wise before her years. Her grandmother, Queen Mary, later told a story about the princess as a child waving her parents off on a six-week journey around the US. Her younger sister, Princess Margaret, declared that she had brought her handkerchief. “To wave, not to cry,” Elizabeth clarified. This instinct to harmonise and soothe in an unsentimental way was evident throughout her life. In her first set-piece speech, on her 21st birthday during a trip to South Africa, she promised to dedicate herself “to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong”. She added: “But I shall not have the strength to carry out this resolution alone unless you join in it with me as I now invite you to do.”

Crowned in 1953 with Prince Philip by her side, the Queen showed an early knack for communicating with the public that her father had lacked. The coronation was televised, despite her reservations, with millions crowding around TV sets to watch. A few years later she let it be known that Prince Charles and Princess Anne, then aged eight and six respectively, had been vaccinated against polio, reassuring worried mothers.

On the international stage the young monarch showed a deftness that eludes

most politicians. Pregnant with Prince Andrew, she was forced to cancel a visit in 1959 to Ghana, which had gained independence from Britain two years earlier. Afraid of offending the country’s founding father, Kwame Nkrumah, especially given Russia’s ambitions in Africa, she sent her assistant private secretary, Martin Charteris, to explain the reason in person. She made the trip in 1961. A photograph of the Queen dancing with Nkrumah, the man who had replaced her as head of state, made front pages around the world. It was all the more striking against a backdrop of bloody apartheid in South Africa.

As she grew into the role, the Queen showed a magnanimity that allowed her to transcend boundaries. She forged a warm relationship with Nelson Mandela and shook hands with Martin McGuinness, the former IRA commander who was by then Northern Ireland’s deputy first minister. Her visit to Ireland the previous year was an object lesson in diplomacy. She bowed her head at Dublin’s Garden of Remembrance, which is dedicated to “all those who lost their lives in the cause of Irish freedom”. She then opened her speech at the state banquet in Irish, going on to say that “our islands have experienced more than their fair share of heartache, turbulence and loss”. She made a sensitive but clear reference to the IRA’s assassination of Prince Philip’s uncle, Dickie Mountbatten. This was international leadership at its finest: constructive, healing and unassuming.

There were mistakes too. In 1966, 144 people were killed – 116 of them children – when a slagheap collapsed in the Welsh village of Aberfan. Inexplicably, it took the Queen eight days to visit. There was what she clumsily called the “annus horribilis” of 1992, when Windsor Castle was ravaged by fire, Charles and Diana separated, Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips divorced and the Duke and Duchess of York also separated. At the nadir, when it took nearly a week for the Queen to address the nation “as your Queen and as a grandmother” after Diana’s death, there were serious questions about whether the monarchy could survive.

In fact, after that dark period in 1997, the Queen and Buckingham Palace found a new, more nuanced voice. Her intervention in the 2014 Scottish independence referendum, when she urged voters to “think very carefully about the future”, was exquisitely balanced. The Palace’s response when the Duchess of Sussex made her bombshell allegation of racism last year – “While some recollections may vary, [these issues] will be addressed by the family privately” – was dignified and elegantly understated.

The Queen seemed to relax and enjoy herself more in her latter years. We loved her for her appearance with Daniel Craig’s James Bond at the London 2012 Olympics, and for her surprise skit with a CGI Paddington Bear at this summer’s Platinum Jubilee celebrations. But it was Covid that reminded us what a special presence she was in our lives. Just as the 14-year-old Elizabeth rose to the occasion of the Blitz, so the 93-year-old Queen delivered a televised message that was almost magical in its emotional resonance at a time of crisis. “We will meet again,” she promised, echoing the wartime hit by Vera Lynn. In that moment we understood the depth of her connection with our history, the generosity of her existence, her commitment to helping the nation find its way towards an uncertain future.

The Queen’s death at the age of 96 will raise challenges for the royal family. The outstanding success of her reign is a reminder that power is vested in the individual more than the institution. As King, Charles has a high standard to meet in judgment and awareness of the role’s constitutional limits and requirements. This is also an opportunity for Britain to reflect on the values it holds dear and on what it will stand for in the new era.

More than anything, though, this is a time to be grateful. We have been luckier than we knew to have had such a source of stability for seven volatile decades. We suspect that those thousands of Britons planning to queue for hours this week to pay their respects and the world leaders gathering for her funeral know this only too well. Britain owes the late Queen the greatest debt a nation has ever owed a monarch, and we will never forget it.

# Ed Conway

## The seed of the energy crisis lies in tomatoes



Economists miss the fact that gas prices affect everything, not just fuel bills

Every time I need a reminder of how utterly entangled our lives are with natural gas, my mind turns instantly to tomatoes. This will doubtless sound a little odd. For most people, natural gas is all about heat and power, about those bills the government has just committed to cap, at extraordinary expense. And yes, this is all incredibly important and we’ll get to it in a moment, but please: indulge me for a moment by thinking of a glistening, ripe, cherry tomato.

If it was bought from a supermarket the chances are that this tomato was grown in an enormous greenhouse. Most of our domestic crop comes from these surreal places: wide, cavernous halls of glass with rows of tomato vines – and for that matter cucumbers and peppers – sprouting from hydroponic substrate, stretching in lines as far as the eye can see. The roots are drenched in water and nitrogen-rich fertiliser; the air is kept at just over 20C and artificially enriched with carbon dioxide, about double the concentration outside. In the most advanced greenhouses in the Netherlands there are lamps that flick on during cloudy days or in the winter.

The upshot of all of this is that the tomatoes photosynthesise and hence grow at an extraordinary clip. A single acre in these greenhouses can yield 400 times that of a typical field. There are other benefits: growing with hydroponics means you can be more forensic with your fertiliser. These places use far fewer chemicals than traditional farms. And more tomatoes per acre means a lower price in the supermarket. In the decade between 2010 and 2020 the price of the average British tomato barely budged.

What on earth has all this got to do with natural gas? Only everything. Nearly all the world’s nitrogen-based fertiliser is made from natural gas: we use methane to “fix” the nitrogen from the air. The boilers keeping the greenhouses warm are almost all fuelled by natural gas. And the CO<sub>2</sub> being pumped in to aid photosynthesis is captured from the boiler’s flue. The tomato is quite literally a fossil fuel product.

When economists glance at the “basket” of goods whose prices are collected and aggregated into the official inflation data, they are often struck by how little of it is formally categorised as “energy”. The other week a Financial Times columnist remarked that “energy prices account for 10 per cent” of inflation. He had totted up things such as

electricity bills and petrol prices. But, I found myself shouting at the newspaper, what about tomatoes? Tomatoes are also energy products – as for that matter are peppers and aubergines and anything else grown with fertilisers and transported in trucks. And tomato inflation, it turns out, is running at 20 per cent – even higher than the headline rate.

I’m quite serious about this. I have a suspicion that part of the reason economists at the FT and for that matter the Bank of England missed the recent build-up of inflation (which pre-dated the Ukraine war by many months) is that they didn’t spend enough time pondering tomatoes. They failed to understand that energy costs are not just a sub-category of inflation, they are everywhere: in food prices, product prices, services prices. They also failed to notice the bug at the very heart of conventional economics, which blithely presumes that if the price of something goes up, people can just buy an alternative product. Tomatoes too expensive? Just buy a different vegetable. Fine. But you can’t really substitute for energy: you go cold or you do nothing.

All of which is why we were heading for such an economic cliff-edge until last week’s intervention. It also helps explain why even an instinctive libertarian used her first piece of legislation to fix prices. There are no free-marketeers in an energy crisis. Liz Truss’s energy guarantee, as she called it, is a very big deal indeed. It might even prevent a recession, just about. But that success will come at a price. Quite what that price is no one can tell you. The Treasury didn’t even bother trying, which infuriated the City’s economists but is in some senses more honest than attempting to put a number on it. Perhaps we’re talking £100 billion, perhaps more; probably the biggest peacetime splurge in modern history ... but frankly no one has the foggiest because it all depends on what Vladimir Putin does next. Some Russian gas is still flowing to

Europe at the moment, mostly via Ukrainian pipelines (the irony!) but how soon until Russia confects an excuse to cut that supply off, doubtless blaming it on Volodymyr Zelensky? So the price could go higher still.

However, beyond the cost and lack of detail about how it will work, there are at least two other problems with Truss’s intervention. The first is that it assumes that this will all be over in a couple of years. Yet look at the timeline of forthcoming global gas projects and it’s clear that the hole left in European markets by Russian gas will not be filled until the second half of this decade. There is a good chance, in other words, that what looks today like a very expensive subsidy could soon turn so costly that it could threaten the solvency of the nation. Don’t panic: we are nowhere near that yet, but it’s enough of a prospect that investors are getting a wee bit nervous.

The other problem is that the energy guarantee failed to ask the most obvious question: since Russia benefits from high energy prices and since we use so much energy, might it not be prudent to think how we could use a bit less of it in future? Back to those tomato farmers. They are having a terrible time of it; half the glasshouses in northern Europe are empty because growers can’t afford the gas. Truss’s measures might make it just about affordable to switch the boilers back on, but there’s another model, which draws inspiration from the pandemic. In much the same way as we paid people then to stay at home, this time around shouldn’t we be paying businesses not to burn gas? Sure, cherry tomatoes may be harder to come by for a few years, but a less colourful salad is surely a small price to pay for a policy that might hit Putin where it hurts: smack bang in the gas price.

The final lesson to draw from tomatoes is a deeper one. If we are going to reduce our carbon emissions and get to the much-vaunted net zero, something Truss recommitted herself to last week, it won’t just come about by replacing our gas boilers with heat pumps and our power stations with wind turbines. We’ll have to come up with new ways to make fertilisers without natural gas (and without cannibalising the world’s electricity). We’ll have to try to disentangle the million different ways we are reliant on fossil fuels. We’ll have to reimagine nearly every corner of industry. In the great energy transition, tomatoes are a mere appetiser.

Dominic Lawson appears on page 19 today

# India Knight

## Camilla — from wicked witch to happy ever after



Sure-footed, loyal and resilient, she will play a key part in Charles’s reign

The week has been so momentous and discombobulating that Camilla becoming Queen Consort has passed largely unremarked. Yet it has been a remarkable trajectory. Twenty-five years ago, she was one of the most reviled women in the country, detested for her role in the break-up of the “fairytale” marriage of Charles and Diana, Princess of Wales. That this union had clearly been ill-conceived did not seem to bother anybody. Diana was far too young and naive, Charles was far too much in love with Camilla, and the whole thing, hinging on the creepy idea that the future king must have an aristocratic virgin bride, was surely doomed.

People want fairytales, happy endings, goodies and baddies. As soon as news of Charles’s infidelity was made public Diana was cast, in part by herself, as a monstrously wronged saint-martyr, and Camilla as a witch without morals, a wicked enchantress with no care for anything other than her own base lust. That she had a sexual relationship with Charles while she too was married to someone else, with whom she had young children, was the marmalade dropper to end them all, regardless of the fact that sleeping with other people while in possession of a spouse has long been considered a perfectly jolly way of passing the time in that particular social milieu (Camilla was at this point a character straight out of Jilly Cooper – roast chicken in the Aga, paw prints in the hall, flirting in the kitchen, glass in hand. The plot twist is that Cooper has said that “the best bits” of her great rakish hero, Rupert Campbell-Black, were based on Camilla’s first husband, the retired army officer Andrew Parker Bowles).

You will note that it was the women who were pitted against each other in this reductive and caricatured way: the future king, though humiliated by the leaking of an intimate telephone conversation with Camilla, was – well, the future king, and a man. He could be forgiven. Camilla could not.

So she endured stoically, for years and years.

She gritted her teeth, kept her head down, never publicly made even a squeak of complaint at the crude and brutal treatment doled out by both media and public, and quietly stood by her man. It must have taken extraordinary resilience and strength of character to refuse to be ground down, particularly around the time of Diana’s death, but she clearly believed that she and Charles were a true love match, and that the relationship was more meaningful than anything that could be thrown at it. In tiny, imperceptible increments, she became admirable in her fortitude.

She and Parker Bowles divorced amicably in 1995, and in 2005, 34 years after their first meeting – not at the polo, as in *The Crown*, but at a party thrown by one Lucia Santa Cruz, according to Charles’s official biographer, Jonathan Dimbleby – Camilla and Charles were finally married. Like him, she liked dogs, horses, *The Goon Show* and being in the country. The wedding, a civil ceremony, was small and was followed by a televised blessing. Afterwards there was a reception for 800 people at Windsor Castle, at which the late Queen made a toast to the couple: “They have overcome Becher’s Brook and The Chair [fences at Aintree] and all kinds of other terrible obstacles. They have come through and I’m very proud and wish them well. My son is home and dry with the woman he loves.”

Camilla, after all this time, had finally been forgiven by the public, and Windsor was

festooned in bunting and flags. About 20,000 people lined the streets to wish the couple, both in their fifties, well. You only have to look at them, then or now, to see how contented and comfortable they are with each other: they are the sort of couple rendered helpless with laughter by their private jokes. She gives the impression of having a light heart: she is sunshine, not showers, and he basks in her rays.

The Queen became so fond of Camilla that this year, in a message to coincide with her Platinum Jubilee, she wrote: “When, in the fullness of time, my son Charles becomes King, I know you will give him and his wife Camilla the same support that you have given me; and it is my sincere wish that, when that time comes, Camilla will be known as Queen Consort as she continues her own loyal service.” The fullness of time is now. It turns out, with the benefit of hindsight, that we were looking for fairytales in all the wrong places. The happy ever after came not to the beautiful ingenue but to a middle-aged couple who had loved each other deeply and inescapably for decades and who this week became our King and Queen. For all the undeniable pain their relationship caused at the time – and its reverberations nearly broke the monarchy – it is, in the end, a powerful love story. Real life, even for royals and aristocrats, is knotty and complicated, and it is the knots that build character.

King Charles thanked “my darling wife Camilla” in his address on Friday, and it is obvious that she is the person responsible for his happiness. She is his own “strength and stay”, sure-footed and loyal, and she will play a huge part in whatever success he makes of his reign. He will now lean on her to an unprecedented extent, and she will, as she has always done, put him first. It must be exhausting work, to turn your whole being into an emotional support network for someone, especially if that someone is the King of England – but she will do it, as she has always done. We’re lucky to have her.

Real life, even for royals, is knotty and complicated





# Matthew Syed

## The Queen had a magic ingredient: she could make disharmony vanish



Nations need a glue – an icon whose love of the common good is never hijacked by factional interests

It's strange, when you take a step back, that the passing of a woman who most people on these islands never met or glimpsed in the flesh caused a psychological tremor that felt tangible when the news of her death was confirmed. The trepidation was already real, from the passing of notes in the Commons, to the hurried conversations between neighbours and friends, online and on street corners.

"We look before and after, And pine for what is not;" Shelley wrote. Already there is an absence, the sense of a nation bereft. A fragile female in her nineties had, by virtue of her role and example, become so much more than a head of state, more even than a conventional monarch. She had become a reminder that, despite our differences and mutual animosities, we had something in common. Something precious.

The great Islamic scholar Ibn Khaldun argued that civilisations rely on one thing more than anything else. He called it *asabiyyah*. By this, he meant the capacity of strangers to feel a sense of solidarity, a spirit of connection. He knew from the fate of his own region the tendency for societies to fall apart, to fracture, for infighting to proceed from a precarious unity. In his careful rendering of history, he argued that conglomerations of humans need a magic ingredient to survive and flourish, a glue that holds together those abstractions we call nation states.

The Queen – a lifelong Christian – understood this sociological truth perhaps more than any leader of our times. She was not elected and so didn't have to pander to ideological disputes and could thus unite above the fray of political dissension. The moments that define her period of sovereignty are like grappling hooks in the social fabric. When else did the concept of

nationhood feel more real than when she was crowned in 1953, her Silver Jubilee in 1977, her 90th birthday celebrations? When she was among the first to take the Covid vaccine, she said with a smile "it didn't hurt at all". It was like a resonant chord echoing through a fretful population.

One of the tragedies of my lifetime has been the tendency of many, perhaps intellectuals most of all, to overlook the importance of *asabiyyah*; to ignore the gossamer threads that bind us together. Once, we revered the uniters, the bridge-builders, the mediators; we regarded them as imperative and wise. Over recent decades, we have been more inclined to see such people as tepid, lukewarm, perhaps even ideologically suspect. The internet – a late invention in the reign of Her Majesty – has caused us to congregate ever more tightly with those who share our obsessions and partisan interests. I have lost count of the culture warriors who have been seduced by the cheap popularity of discord, whose stock in trade is to sow division while reaping followers.

In these times, the example of the Queen has been of unusual significance. Through a lifetime of flux and change – the twilight of the age of steam, the rise of television, the entrenchment and shattering of the post-war consensus, the phantasmagoria of the Sixties, the detonation of social media – it was a relief to see this serene figure plotting a path amid the chaos, an icon whose commitment to the common good was never hijacked by factional interests. She grasped that fashions change and viewpoints morph but amid the maelstrom that Freud called mass consciousness we will always need glue to achieve common goals; glue to achieve more together than we could ever achieve alone.

At times of bereavement, perhaps we

all explore the inventory of our own memories. My father grew up in the Indian Raj and moved to Pakistan after Partition before coming to these shores to study law. As I was growing up, I was intrigued and not a little mystified by his admiration for the Queen. I remember him calling for quiet when she came on the TV, the way we would sit attentively during the Christmas message. Why, I wondered, did this proud, charismatic man, whose ancestors reached back to the tribes of Arabia, feel such a connection to this figure?

I can now see the inextricable link between these two things. It is precisely because my father had intimate personal knowledge of sectarianism – of the fractures caused by tribe, religion and ethnicity; of leaders claiming to act for the common good while looting public coffers on behalf of their proxies – that the Queen offered such promise. This, I think, helps to explain the unique place that she occupies in the hearts of so many immigrants to these islands, not to mention citizens of the Commonwealth, despite the contested history of empire.

It wasn't just her status but her character that united us. In a world where politicians so often fall short, she rarely did. One could choose from any of a thousand examples of public duty but perhaps the most poignant was the last, two days before her passing. We will never know how onerous it was to oversee the prime ministerial succession but the image of her standing alone in a room at Balmoral, hands poised, head bowed, yet raising a smile to posterity, becomes an instant part of her legacy. I look at it now and glimpse the woman beneath the crown, the individual behind the title, a mortal human who swore service to the Commonwealth at 21, unable to encompass the full meaning of those words, but who never wavered from the path decreed by fate.

She is often said to have held up a mirror to the British people but this represents, I think, a profound misreading of her reign. In a world that has become increasingly narcissistic, her motto was "it's not about me". In a world of superficial celebrity, she embodied durability. In a world of short-termism, her horizons stretched further and deeper – perhaps because, amid the swirl of election cycles, she evoked an institutional history reaching back a thousand years. It was this panoramic perspective that enabled her to position the monarchy as a bulwark against cultural tendencies that all of us knew, deep down, were antithetical to the common good; to our *asabiyyah*.

My late father often told me never to forget my immense good fortune to be British, to be part of what the Queen called "these old islands". Never have those words felt more true. I yearn to see a sense of national pride replace the guilt that clings to our consciousness and history, making us falter, depriving us of confidence, causing us to thrash around in the fog of self-doubt. As we enter an age of crisis, we need renewed faith in our great nation and should be inspired by the memory of one of our greatest monarchs, even as we remain vigilant against the forces of dissension that will seek to fill the void she left behind.

"We cannot live only for ourselves," wrote the Anglican preacher Henry Melvill. "A thousand fibres connect us with our fellow men; and among those fibres, as sympathetic threads, our actions run as causes, and come back to us as effects." Melvill never met the Queen but couldn't the words have been written about her? She was for millions – republicans and monarchists, black and white, rich and poor – a rock amid the shifting sands of history, the mortar of our national life. We will never forget her.

**“In a world where politicians fall short, she rarely did**

## Letters to the editor

### Truss must seek out Britain's best minds

Our new prime minister tells us that "our country was built by people who get things done". True enough, but to believe politicians were among them is delusional. The "modern, brilliant Britain" she envisions can surely only become manifest through a harnessing of all the talents – not career politicians or teenage scribblers in their think tanks but experts in their field; people of vision, courage and determination.

This country is crying out for bold joined-up plans that take every aspect of our lives into the 21st century, be it health, social care, energy or housing. If the people understand the vision, they will be on board. Yet another sticking-plaster government won't build diddly.

Alan Jones, Pewsey, Wiltshire

**Strange days**

Truss's soundbite about "riding out the storm" reminds me of a song by the Doors. Will she help me light my fire this winter, or will her premiership herald the end?

Richard George, St Albans

### We teens are not that scary, Jeremy

I am deeply sorry that Jeremy Clarkson was traumatised by enforced marzipan as a child (News Review, last week). Humour aside, his column only adds to the reams of hyperbolic commentary on young people.

If he truly believes the uselessness of my generation is a greater threat than the invasion of Ukraine or the repercussions of Brexit, that savours strongly of the entitlement he lays at our door. Clarkson's "we" and "you" indicate a belief he is read only by those who agree with him. May I suggest that, rather than vent into such an echo chamber, he engage with some of us directly? Or else I shall have to ask what he is afraid of.

Eleanor Clark, Tiverton, Devon

**Support, not derision**

This generation of young people have faced challenges unique in Clarkson's lifetime – with lasting consequences for their education, wellbeing and future prosperity. That's not a joke, and it certainly doesn't warrant the torrent of invective directed at them. Far from displaying "complete and utter uselessness", our young people have shown a remarkable resilience and generosity of spirit. Through our charity alone, they dedicated 1.8 million hours to volunteering in local communities during the pandemic.

They deserve our support, not derision. Although I imagine even they would appreciate the delicious irony of a lecture on arrogance and entitlement from that particular quarter.

Ruth Marvel, chief executive  
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

### Fracking, a once and future failure

The government's plans to restart fracking and offer new North Sea oil and gas licences are the wrong answer to the energy crisis – and the climate crisis.

According to the new chancellor, fracking won't produce more gas for many years and won't cut energy bills. Fracking is a failed industry. What's missing from the government's plans is support for the real, quick and inexpensive solutions: insulating homes to cut bills and removing unfair planning barriers so we can reap the benefits of low-cost onshore wind and solar power. We will all – apart from the energy companies – pay the price for the government's detachment from reality.

Tony Bosworth, Friends of the Earth campaigner, London SW9

**Points**

**Ancient wisdom**

It beggars belief that in the 21st century people still pray to the alleged relics of St Bernadette (News, last week). Even in the 14th century Geoffrey Chaucer was demonstrating a healthy cynicism for such practices. Of the Pardoner in his prologue to *The Canterbury Tales* he wrote: "And in a glas he hadde pigges bones./ But with these relikes, whan that he fond/ A povre person dwelling up-on lond,/ Up-on a day he gat him more moneye/ Than that the person gat in monthes tweye."

Professor Emeritus A Peter Fawcett  
Nottingham University

**Enlightenment now**

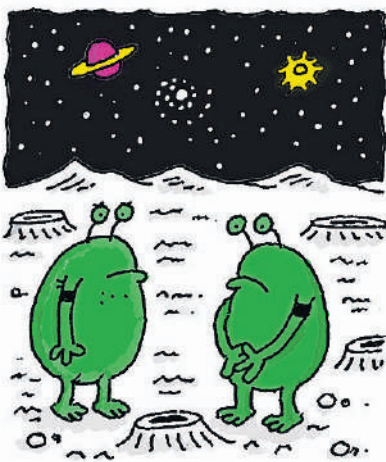
The pop singer Mark Owen says (Style, last week): "Back in Bali, my yoga teacher had a name for this place where the past met the future: she would call it the present, the now." Like virtually everyone else, then.

Francis Harvey, Bristol

### Correction

Our Magazine cover story "The making of a dictator" (November 21, 2021) included a photograph wrongly captioned as showing Xi Mingze and Peng Liyuan, President Xi's wife and daughter. We apologise to Si Chen and Noelle Xi for wrongly identifying them.

## NEWMAN'S WEEK



"It wasn't Paddington – it was Boris"



"Are you still prime minister or have you come to resign?"

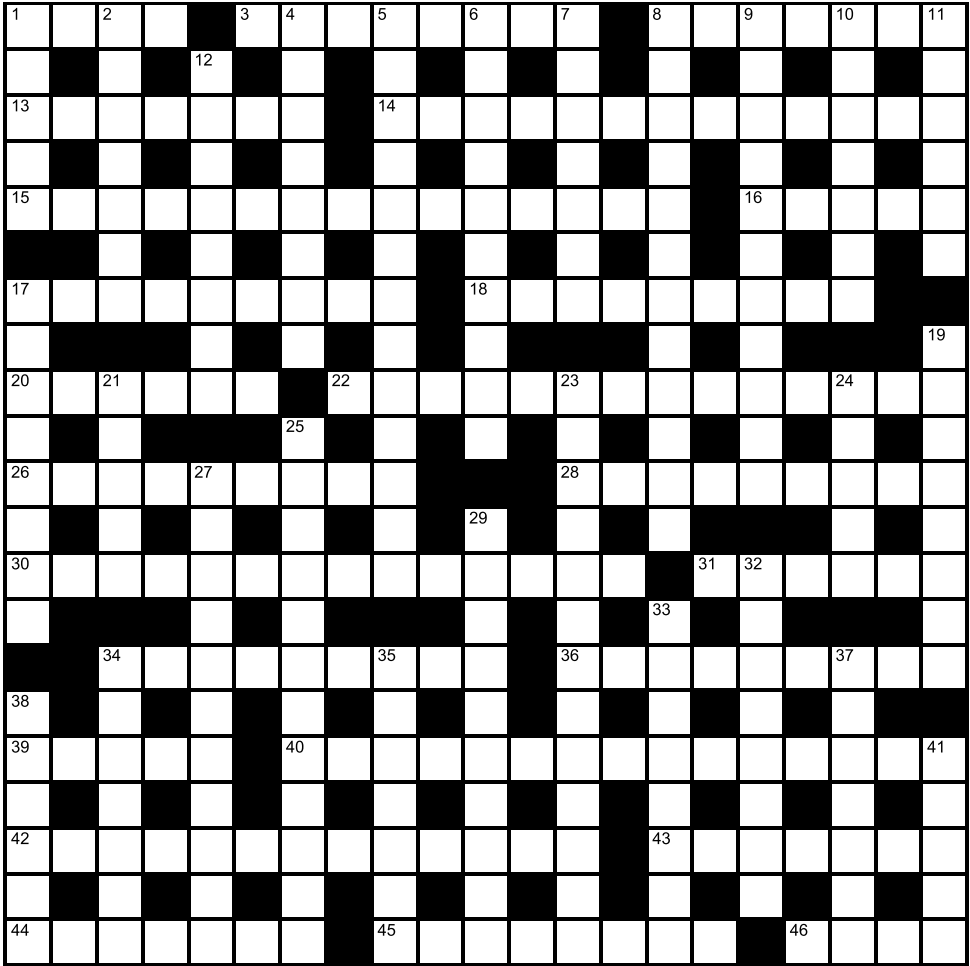


"And what do you do?"



PUZZLES

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE JUMBO CROSSWORD 335



Across

- 1 City with the oldest continuously operating university in the Americas (4)  
3 \_\_\_'s law: With equal temperature and pressure, equal volumes of two gases contain equal numbers of molecules (8)  
8 Most non-committal (7)  
13 Rock, heavy metal and punk magazine launched in 1981 (7)  
14 Conversion of an image stored as an outline into pixels (13)  
15 Opening words and alternative title of Sonnet X by John Donne (5,2,3,5)  
16 Large semiaquatic rodent native to South America (5)  
17 Mark added to a letter to modify its pronunciation (9)  
18 Informally, those fighting for Garibaldi in his campaign to unify Italy (3-6)  
20 In \_\_\_, a hand with no court cards is "carte blanche" (6)  
22 Lord Protector of the Commonwealth 1653-1658 (6,8)  
26 Dorset's "abbey town of golden ironstone [...] a town of schools" (Betjeman) (9)  
28 Cylindrical coils of wire used as electromagnets (9)  
30 Westernmost lake of the Lake District National Park (9,5)  
31 Angles of 2 or 3 radians are \_\_\_ (6)  
34 "\_\_\_, Arizona / Don't forget Winona" (Route 66 lyrics) (9)  
36 Dorset town where Mary Anning made significant fossil discoveries in the 19th century (4,5)  
39 Asian mammal also called honey badger (5) (pictured)  
40 German tennis player who beat Serena Williams in a 2018 Wimbledon final (9,6)  
42 Actress who played Edith Artois in 'Allo 'Allo! (6,7)  
43 Not worthy of use (7)  
44 "Freude, schöner Götterfunken / Tochter aus \_\_\_" (Ode to Joy lyrics) (7)  
45 In ancient Rome, one quarter of a denarius (8)  
46 Primordial matter of the universe, according to the Big Bang theory (4)

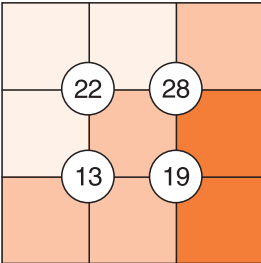


Down

- 1 Political party founded by Menachem Begin and Ariel Sharon in 1973 (5)  
2 A fortified dessert wine of Sicily (7)  
4 A small illustration or short literary sketch (8)  
5 \_\_\_ provided the first chance for women to study at Cambridge University (6,7)  
6 To have a negative opinion (of) (10)  
7 Consisting of a single part (7)  
8 \_\_\_ wanders around Europe in a long poem by Byron (6,6)  
9 In \_\_\_ wrestling, holds below the waist are prohibited (6-5)  
10 Another name for the Furies in Greek mythology (7)  
11 1996 golf romcom with Kevin Costner and Rene Russo (3,3)  
12 Portable stand for carpenters away from their workshops (8) (pictured)  
17 Supplier of information on, eg, sports and politics (US) (8)  
19 Swiss ski resort favoured by Prince Charles (8)  
21 What Lucy Pevensie becomes in the Narnia books (5)  
23 In the Channel 4 sitcom Black Books, the bookshop is located in London's \_\_\_ (7,6)  
24 The biblical forename of Yale University's founder (5)  
25 Tincture of benzoin typically used as an inhalant (6,6)  
27 The Italian Army's riflemen, with distinctive helmets (11)  
29 Legality (10)  
32 "French mustard" sold in the UK resembles \_\_\_ mustard rather than Dijon (8)  
33 One who experiences partial or total memory loss (8)  
34 Shipping forecast area west of 32D (7)  
35 Bell which calls Catholics to prayer (7)  
37 Nelson \_\_\_, played by Jack May, was a rogue in The Archers for 45 years (7)  
38 \_\_\_v2 (there was no v1) was the first commercially available SQL-based relational database management system (6)  
41 Watery discharge, usually from eyes or nose (5)

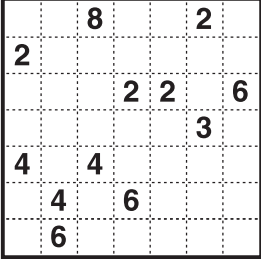


SUKO



Place the numbers 1 to 9 in the spaces so that the number in each circle is equal to the sum of the four surrounding spaces, and each colour total is correct.

CELL BLOCKS



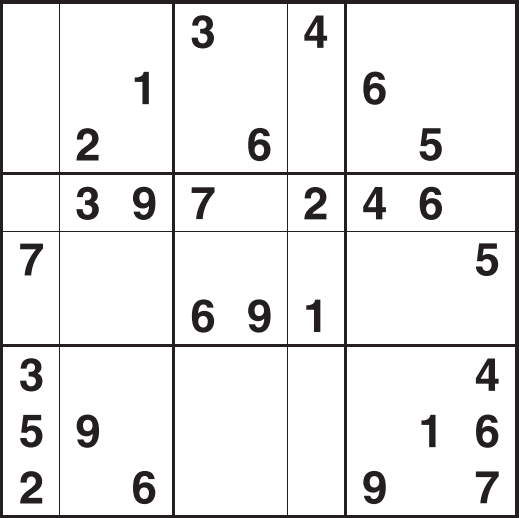
Divide the grid into square or rectangular blocks, each containing one digit only. Every block must contain the number of cells indicated by the digit inside it.

SUDOKU

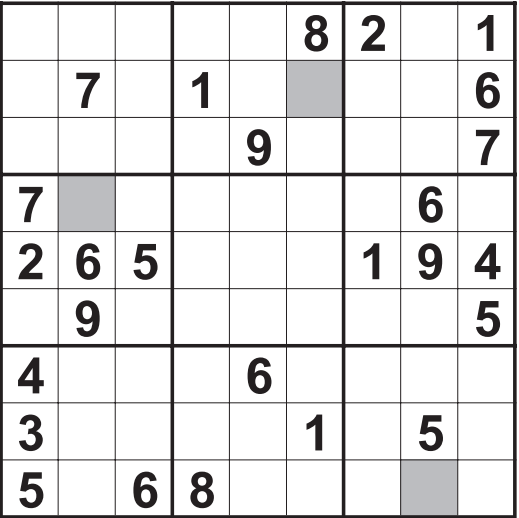
Each row, column and 3x3 box must contain the digits 1 to 9. Winners will receive a Collins English Dictionary & Thesaurus.

To enter, complete the Very Hard puzzle and call 0901 292 5275 (UK only) (ROI 1516 303 500), leaving your answer (the numbers in the three shaded squares) and contact details. Or text SUNDAY2, followed by a space, then your answer (three numbers) and contact details — eg SUNDAY2 123 John Smith, etc — to 64343 (UK only). Calls cost £1.00 (ROI £1.50) plus your telephone company's network access charge. Texts cost £1 plus your standard network charge. Winners will be picked at random from all correct answers received. Lines close at midnight on Saturday. If you call or text after this time you will not be entered but may be charged. When entering by phone or text, please provide your FULL name and address details, as incomplete entries may be charged but not entered. **STUCK?** Call our clue line to get four clues for the Very Hard puzzle on 0901 293 6265 (ROI 1514 515 120). Calls cost £1 (ROI 76c) plus your telephone company's network access charge. For full terms and conditions, visit thesundaytimes.co.uk/comprules. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390 (Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm)

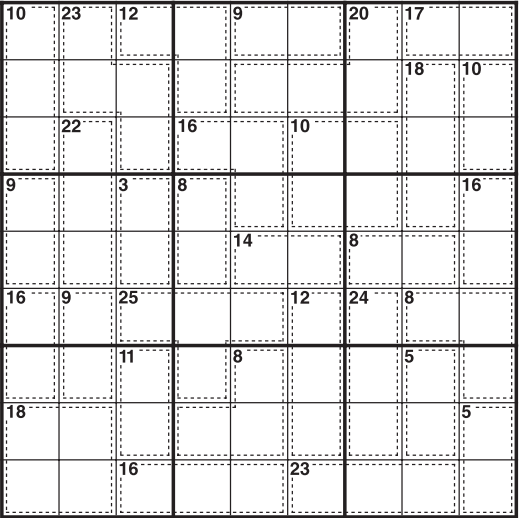
WARM-UP



VERY HARD — PRIZE 1500



KILLER SUDOKU MODERATE



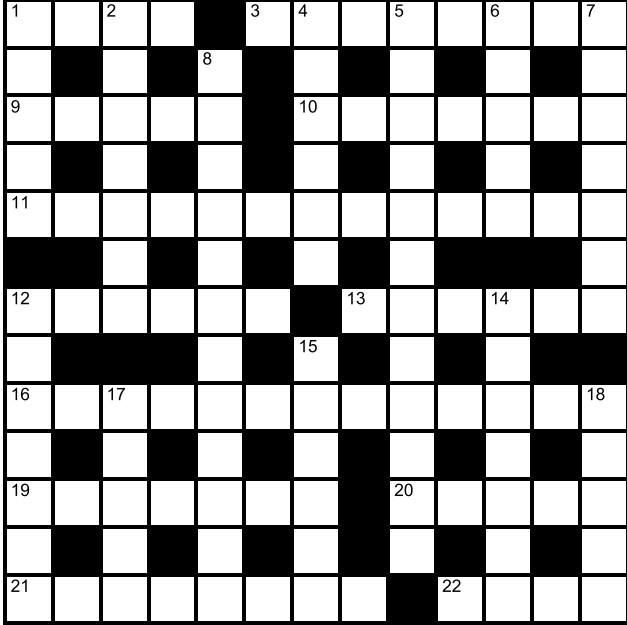
Each row, column and 3x3 box must contain the digits 1 to 9. The digits within each group of cells joined by dotted lines must add up to the figure in the top-left-hand corner of each group. Within each dotted-line group, a digit cannot be repeated.

POLYGON



From these letters, make words of four or more letters, always including the central letter. Answers must be in the Concise Oxford Dictionary, excluding capitalised words, plurals, conjugated verbs (past tense etc), adverbs ending in LY, comparatives and superlatives. **How you rate** 21 words, average; 29, good; 38, very good; 47, excellent.

CONCISE CROSSWORD 1799



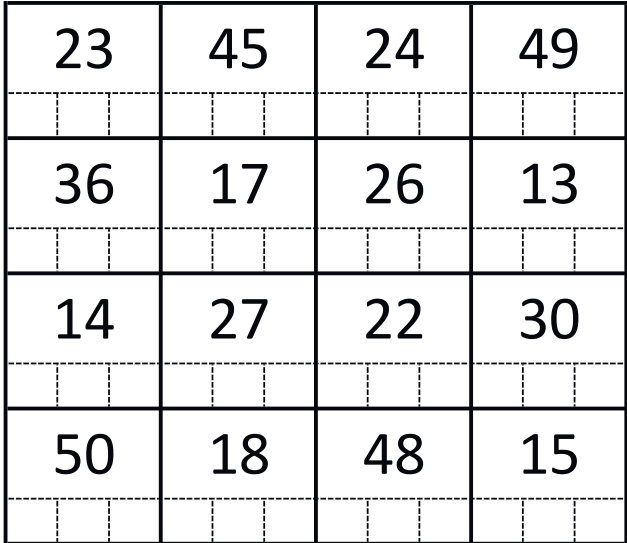
Across

- 1 Quit (4)  
3 Out-and-out (8)  
9 No way (5)  
10 Mattress pests (7)  
11 Handel oratorio (6,2,5)  
12 Fumes (6)  
13 Mighty (6)  
16 Harsh criticism (13)  
19 That which makes whole (7)  
20 Elderly (5)  
21 Nonsense (8)  
22 Retained (4)

Down

- 1 Japanese writing system (5)  
2 Whitewash (5-2)  
4 Overweeningness (6)  
5 Happy occasion (3-6,3)  
6 Lending extortion (5)  
7 Trending symbol (7)  
8 Haphazardness (12)  
12 Valley bridge (7)  
14 Opening (7)  
15 Exaggerate (6)  
17 Expression (5)  
18 Darkness (5)

TETONOR HARD

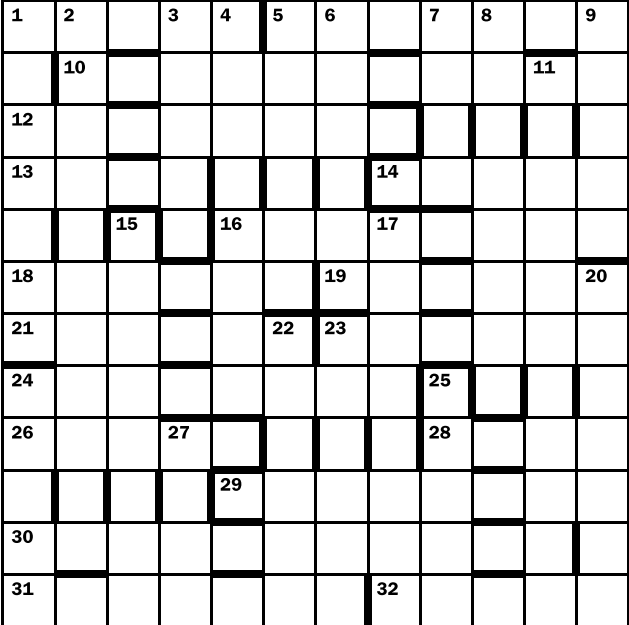


Each number in the main grid can be formed by adding or multiplying a pair of numbers in the strip below the grid. Each pair of numbers should be used twice: once as part of an addition and once as part of a multiplication. For example, a 10 and 24 in the main grid may be solved by the sums, 4 + 6 and 4 x 6, respectively. Enter each sum in the boxes below its answer. Any blanks in the strip must be deduced, bearing in mind the numbers are listed in ascending order.



MEPHISTO 3237

Paul McKenna



NAME .....  
ADDRESS .....

Post your solution to The Sunday Times Mephisto 3237, PO Box 29, Colchester, Essex CO2 8GZ, or email puzzle.entries@sunday-times.co.uk

The first correct solution picked at random after next Saturday wins Collins World Atlas: Complete Edition, worth £30. The next four will receive £20 Waterstones gift vouchers. Open to 18+ UK & ROI residents only.

The Chambers Dictionary 13th edition is the primary reference. Readers may email comments or queries to Paul McKenna at paul.auctor@gmail.com



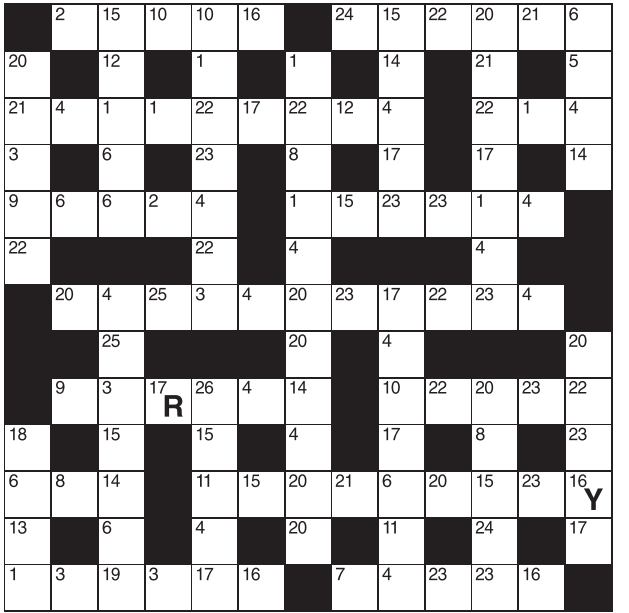
Across

- 1 Batter's inclination is to bound along (5)  
5 Clinch with dear buckaroo (7)  
10 Restaurant's exciting duck treat? Hearts moved (11)  
12 Unsupported appeal for more sporadic visits? (8)  
13 Fret loads on the way back (4)  
14 Repeat search has bewildered (5, two words)  
16 God, one's ripped (8)  
18 Investigative methods jade back in old Argentina (6)  
19 Now disused "loads with fat" sadly means embracing recipe (6)  
21 Society root out source of poison? (6)  
23 News article about uniform being motty? (6)  
24 Old grey, one on gluttony say, gets trattoria's nibbles (8)  
26 Gods of the north found by a westerly tower (5)  
28 Swindle lieutenant being a plonker (4)  
29 Honest female borders on literally becoming a pest (8)  
30 Answer comment unfavourably with licentious loopiness? (11, three words)  
31 I'll push along reforming his merry minstrels (7)  
32 Getafix's second secret spell about to serve some use (5)

Down

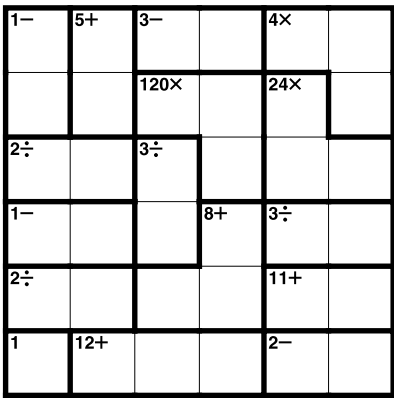
- 1 Sibling that's cut down, well, outsize trees (7)  
2 Who checks on president opening from suggested text? (11)  
3 Part for hot plug having excessive holes? (5)  
4 Fuels for Scots I singled out (8)  
5 Cougar possessing born spirit (6)  
6 Muso, eg, rolls up being no more disgusting (6)  
7 Damage abandoned seashore? (4)  
8 Local barrel organ's to be busily active above Queer Street (8)  
9 Small organ's preposterous wallop (5)  
11 Forcibly overwhelm via more stellar changes (11)  
15 With no new agony left, finally Peggy is in a feverish way (8)  
17 Eagerly expecting subject to lean towards English (8, two words)  
20 Small yard near kind architect's upright structure (7)  
22 One of two is confused here admitting ne plus ultra? (6)  
23 Son pins down old euphemistic outburst (6)  
24 River south of Mediterranean city produces stiff fabric (5)  
25 With God in agreeable concert hall (5)  
27 One heading for mosque before noon (4)

CODEWORD



In the grid, each number represents a letter of the alphabet — all 26 letters are used. Use the initial clues in the code table to work out the rest of the code. **STUCK?** To get four random extra letter clues, call 0901 293 6266 (ROI 1514 415128) or text STCLUE to 64343 (UK only). Calls cost £1 (ROI 75c) plus your telephone company's network access charge. Texts cost £1 plus your standard network charge. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390 (ROI 0818 205 403) (Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm).

KENKEN



All the digits 1 to 6 must appear in every row and column. In each thick-line "block", the target number in the top left-hand corner is calculated from the digits in all the cells in the block, using the operation indicated by the symbol.

CLUE WRITING CONTEST 1934: FISHMONGER

You are invited to write a clue for the word above, in our cryptic crossword style. The best entry selected after next Saturday wins a £25 Waterstones voucher. Email your entry to puzzle.entries@sunday-times.co.uk.

**Winner 1931:** Martin Ede, Fareham, Hampshire  
**Eastbourne:** Resort to use near Beachy Head?

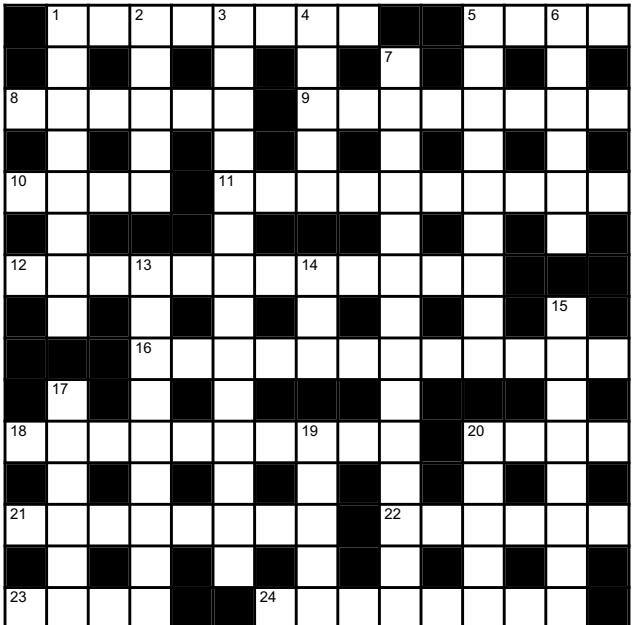
For a full report, visit thesundaytimes.co.uk/cluewriting



The first correct solution opened after next Saturday wins a Cross Townsend black PVD finish micro-knurl fountain pen worth £175. Three others win £125 Townsend matte green PVD finish micro-knurl ballpoint pens. All the pens have lifetime guarantees and embody classic elegance and finesse. Post solutions to: The Sunday Times Crossword 5024, PO Box 29, Colchester, Essex CO2 8GZ, or email: puzzle.entries@sunday-times.co.uk. Open to 18+ UK & ROI residents only.

CROSSWORD 5024

David McLean



NAME .....  
ADDRESS .....

Across

- 1 Foreign street where hams are on show (8)  
5 Orderly announcing the fourth-best Bond? (4)  
8 Speedy fellow delivering a batch of Whoppers (6)  
9 Music producer remixing Ride double EPI! (4,4)  
10 Before cuddle, this initially gets heavy (4)  
11 People in papers Tyneside wags sent up (10)  
12 Architect of the prime minister's address? (12)  
16 Athlete who's big in Japan (4,8)  
18 MOD man can't put off camp officer (10)  
20 Bloody explicit (4)  
21 Nan regularly drew up close to Her Majesty (8)  
22 One could say I sneer around model-types (6)  
23 Extremely precise (4)  
24 A sword of mine (8)

Down

- 1 Spooner's underworld hits to get US caseworkers (8)  
2 Pulling a blade, leader's left unsettled (5)  
3 Reason baby Jesus felt husky at night ... wet blanket? (3,2,3,6)  
4 One fired from Bow school head dismissed (5)  
5 For Your Eyes Only up till Spectre? Rubbish! (3-6)  
6 Record-keeping task for a vice-chairperson? (6)  
7 Daydream influenced by a region of France? (14)  
13 Fix my eyes on a dough made effortlessly (4,5)  
14 Bloody cold (3)  
15 Parisian behind bad rider at this stage blows his top (8)  
17 Rough way to be picked up by the ears (6)  
19 Rail madly about half-cut PM (the one preceding May) (5)  
20 Instructions to leave off in America (3-2)



NEWS REVIEW

Jeremy Clarkson  
Long live the King — so much better than a pesky president



TEASER 3129

Mark Valentine

Bounce Count

At the local arcade, Claire and David played an air hockey game, consisting of a square

table with small pockets at each corner, on which a very small puck can travel 1m left-right and 1m up-down between the perimeter walls. Projecting the puck from a corner, players earn a token for each bounce off a wall, until the puck drops into a pocket.

On Friday morning, I woke with a start as an RAF Globemaster damn nearly twanged the lightning conductors off my chimney pots, before roaring off and disappearing into the early morning fog.

A hurried check on my Flight Radar app revealed that it was on its way from Aberdeen to Brize Norton and, not for the first time in recent days, I had an unmanly moment as I realised that its flight will almost certainly have had something to do with the death of the Queen. The one constant throughout my life. The one constant throughout everyone's life, really.

Almost immediately after she died, there were many eulogies from all around the world. Trudeau's was good. So was Starmer's. And I got the impression that Zelensky's heart was in it as well. But I think the best of them all came from Boris Johnson, who began by saying that Thursday was "our country's saddest day".

He's right. It was. But through the sadness, I was also immensely proud to be British. I know that's a wonky thing to say. It's like a labrador saying it's immensely proud to be a dog. You can only be proud of something you've created, like your children or the book you've written, but you can't really be proud of where you were born because that was just an accident of geography. And yet, today, I am.

In recent times, people like Meghan Markle have been telling us to drop the stiff upper lip and wear our hearts on our sleeves. We are warned that if we bottle up our emotions, we will suffer from mental health issues and maybe a skin disease. In short, we've been told to be more hysterical, more American.

The BBC has been at the forefront of this campaign, endlessly asking people whose houses have flooded "how they

feel" and talking, after a road crash, about how the survivors have been offered "counselling". And yet on Thursday evening, the BBC was magnificently not that.

And the same goes for the Palace, so this is what we got. No fuss. No graphics. Just Huw Edwards judging it to perfection. "The Queen died peacefully at Balmoral this afternoon. The King and the Queen Consort will remain at Balmoral this evening and will return to London tomorrow."

And there it was, contained in this short and simple message. The very definition of what it means to be British. The Queen is dead. Long live your new head of state, King Charles III.

The Queen was a mother and a human being and we can be sad that she died in the same way that we can be sad when anyone dies. But what that short message from the Palace said was that when it comes to the monarchy, she was just someone who held the baton in an endless relay race. And now, that baton has passed to her eldest son. Meet the new boss. Same as the old boss.

Yes. Many commentators have described her death as seismic and it's true, we will need new stamps, and new coins, and new bank notes and new passports and even a new national anthem. And we will need time to get over the tremendous loss. But despite the turmoil and the sadness, the message from the Palace is: "Nothing's changed so keep calm and carry on." Because that's the British way.

If we gave the people a say, we'd get Alan Sugar

Charles has learnt his trade from the master — his mother



Of course, there are many socialists and young people who think that a hereditary system of government is preposterous and they are, of course, quite right. It is. We don't have hereditary surgeons or judges. My son will not take over this column when I die, so why should it be any different when it comes to the government? I'll tell you why; because it works and the alternative very obviously doesn't.

When the time is up for an American president, there's rarely a smooth and dignified handover to his predecessor. You get hanging chads and months of argy-bargy and Sarah Palin and, last time round, a bunch of angry rednecks storming the Capitol building and, in a fog of tear gas, smashing up the Speaker's office. You want that? Or do you prefer Huw Edwards's straight bat?

And it's not just the unseemly and drawn-out process that's muddle-headed because usually, the result is

skewwhiff as well. Look around the world right now and find me one president who's not mad or incontinent or both. You give "the people" a say in the matter and what you end up with is Macron or Erdogan or Duterte or, terrifyingly, Biden. So no. It's far better to not give "the people" a say at all.

Seriously. Imagine, what would happen if we were allowed to choose a head of state. Do you think we'd end up with a kindly lollipop lady or a wise old sage like Lord Carrington? Not a chance. There'd be months of boring noises, followed by a TV debate full of graphics and nonsense, and we'd end up with Alan Sugar.

I think Charles makes more sense. Sure, he has some unusual views on plants and progress and we are told he sometimes sends government ministers angry handwritten letters when he feels they are going in the wrong direction. But he's been training for the job since he was old enough to read fairy stories and he's watched his mother, an absolute master, perform the necessary duties, pretty much faultlessly, for 70 years.

He knows, of course, that in the system we have, he is the ultimate check and balance and that he can dissolve parliament and declare war on France if the mood takes him. But he understands that, mainly, his role is to open disabled ramps in civic centres and look interested when people in village halls give him their recipe for jam. His job is to be kind. That's it. And I don't think Alan Sugar would be very good at that.

Of course, King Charles will never enjoy the same level of love and respect that we had for the Queen. At a very basic level there simply isn't the time.

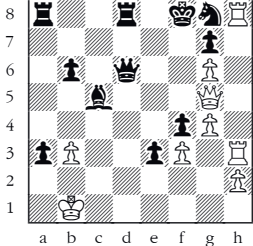
But I think he will be a good King. And I think Camilla will be a good Queen Consort. And from the bottom of my heart, I wish them well.

CHESS David Howell

A king hunt up and down the board. Forced checkmate in 25 moves.

I often find that solving puzzles can be the perfect tonic after a difficult day. Well-crafted puzzles can be educational and exciting while also emphasising the beauty in chess.

The incredible composition below is based on a game between Westler and Krejcik in Vienna, 1913. White must give check on every turn, never allowing Black more than two legal replies. I challenge the readers to try and visualise as far down the main variation as possible, before playing out and enjoying the solution on a board. Composition by Richard Guerrero, 2016. White to play and win

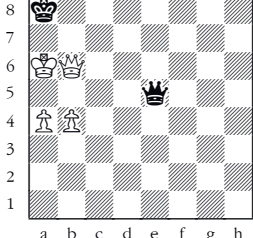


Black has multiple threats so urgency is required. 1.Rxg8+ As is usually the case with puzzles, the first step is a forcing move. This tends to take the form of a check, capture, or threat. 1...Kxg8 2.Rh8+! The black king must be lured into the path of the white queen. 2...Kxh8 3.Qh5+ Kg8 4.Qh7+ Kh8 5.Qh8+ Ke7 6.Qxg7+ It is easy to forget

that this capture later leaves a vacant escape square for the black king. 6...Ke6 (6...Ke8 7.Qf7 mate) 7.Qf7+ Ke5 The black king is chased down the board as if it were forced to descend a staircase. 8.Qf5+ Kd4 9.Qe4+ Kc3 10.Qc2+! The king is pushed back up the staircase. 10...Kd4 (10...Kb4 11.Qc4+ Ka5 12.Qa4 is mate) 11.Qc4+ Ke5 12.Qe4+ Kf6 13.Qf5+ Kg7 14.Qf7+ Kh6 15.Qh7+ Kg5 16.h4+ Now g5 is covered and the pursuit continues. 16...Kf6 17.Qf7+ Ke5 The king is obliged to do another lap of the board. 18.Qf5+ Kd4 19.Qe4+ Kc3 20.Qc2+ Kd4 21.Qc4+ Ke5 22.Qe4+ Kf6 23.Qf5+ Kg7 24.Qf7+ Kh6 25.Qh7 mate A unique and memorable sequence!

Spot the Move 1340:

Black to play.



Variation from Caruana - Vachier-Lagrave, St. Louis 2022. Queen endgames are notoriously difficult to navigate. This position is a theoretical draw, but only one move will avoid Black's need for prolonged suffering. Can you see how to immediately force a draw?

BRIDGE Sally Brock

Today's deal, from an online tournament, caused more problems for the North-South pairs than anyone would have imagined.

EW vulnerable, Dealer East

♠ KQ6	♥ 10432
♦ A43	♣ Q109752
♦ AKQ74	♣ -
♠ 53	♣ Q62
♠ AJ9	♥ 875
♥ 86	♥ KJ
♦ 19652	♦ 1083
♣ J107	♣ AK984

These days, particularly non-vulnerable, most pairs will open a decent 11-count, and that is what happened here. Our opponents bid:

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Pass	1NT
Pass	4NT	Pass	All Pass
	6♦		All Pass

West found what turned out to be a very awkward lead for declarer: the jack of clubs. With entries to his hand in short supply, he ducked the first club, and West continued with the ten. What now? Worried that clubs were 4-2 and that he might have to find two discards from the dummy, declarer won and exited with a low club, pitching a heart from the dummy (a diamond would have been a better choice). East exited with a heart, won in the dummy; declarer tried a top diamond but was disappointed to find the bad break. In practice, he ducked

arrange all their tokens into a cube and a square combined. How many tokens did they end up with?

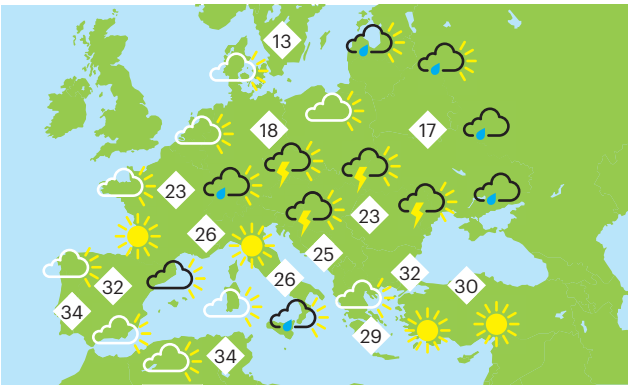
Send your solution to: The Sunday Times Teaser 3129, PO Box 29, Colchester, Essex CO2 8GZ or email puzzle.entries@sunday-times.co.uk. The first two correct solutions opened after next Saturday each win a £20 Waterstones voucher. Open to 18+ UK & ROI residents only.

WEATHER AROUND THE WORLD

Amsterdam	21C	sh	London	22C	f
Athens	33	s	Los Angeles	30	sh
Auckland	16	sh	Madrid	32	f
Bangkok	29	th	Mexico City	23	sh
Barcelona	28	th	Miami	31	th
Beijing	31	s	Moscow	16	f
Belgrade	19	sh	Nairobi	26	f
Berlin	19	sh	New Delhi	40	f
Bogota	17	sh	New Orleans	33	th
Boston	27	f	New York	24	r
Brussels	23	f	Oslo	18	f
Budapest	22	f	Panama	30	th
Buenos Aires	18	f	Paris	22	f
Cairo	37	s	Prague	19	sh
Calgary	32	f	Rio de Janeiro	20	sh
Cape Town	15	sh	Rome	30	s
Caracas	27	th	San Francisco	19	f
Casablanca	33	f	Santiago	21	sh
Chicago	20	th	Seoul	27	f
Dubai	36	s	Seychelles	27	th
Dublin	18	sh	Singapore	28	th
Geneva	23	s	Stockholm	17	f
Gibraltar	29	f	Sydney	20	s
Guatemala	19	th	Tel Aviv	30	s
Helsinki	16	f	Tenerife	28	f
Hong Kong	29	th	Tokyo	29	f
Istanbul	30	s	Toronto	25	f
Jersey	21	f	Trinidad	32	th
Johannesburg	29	s	Tunis	40	s
La Paz	16	s	Venice	25	s
Lagos	26	th	Vienna	19	sh
Lima	18	f	Warsaw	17	sh
Lisbon	26	f	Washington DC	21	r

Key c=cloud, dr=drizzle, ds=dust storm, f=fair, fg=fog, g=gales, h=hail, m=mist, r=rain, sh=showers, sl=sleet, sn=snow, s=sun, th=thunder, w=windy

EUROPE



- Staying dry and sunny and feeling hot across Portugal and Spain, isolated thunderstorms later
- Mostly dry and warm with sunny spells across Italy, the Mediterranean, Greece and the southern Balkans
- Scattered showers and thunderstorms across the northern Balkans and parts of central and eastern Europe
- Staying mainly dry with a mixture of sunny spells and patchy cloud across France, the Low Countries, Germany and Denmark. A few showers in the eastern Alps
- Largely dry with sunny spells across Norway, Sweden and Finland. A few showers in southern Sweden.
- Dry along the Baltic coast, but some showery rain inland

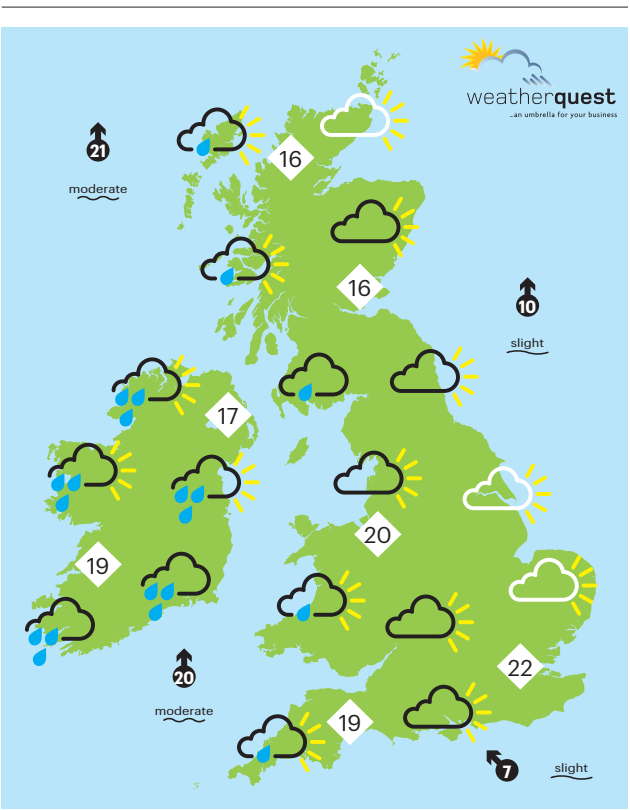
SUN, STREET LIGHTS & MOON

	Sun rises	Sun sets/ lights on	Lights off	Moon rises	Moon sets
Aberdeen	06:31	19:39	06:33	20:18	09:01(Mon)
Belfast	06:49	19:51	06:51	20:33	09:15(Mon)
Birmingham	06:35	19:33	06:37	20:17	08:56(Mon)
Bristol	06:39	19:34	06:40	20:20	08:59(Mon)
Cardiff	06:41	19:37	06:43	20:22	09:01(Mon)
Cork	07:02	19:58	07:03	20:43	09:24(Mon)
Dublin	06:52	19:51	06:53	20:35	09:15(Mon)
Glasgow	06:41	19:46	06:43	20:27	09:09(Mon)
London	06:29	19:25	06:30	20:10	08:49(Mon)
Manchester	06:35	19:35	06:37	20:18	08:59(Mon)
Newcastle	06:31	19:34	06:33	20:16	08:57(Mon)
Norwich	06:22	19:20	06:24	20:04	08:43(Mon)
Plymouth	06:46	19:40	06:47	20:26	09:05(Mon)

NIGHT SKY

The Summer Triangle, comprising the stars Vega, Deneb and Altair, is high in the S at 21:00. Jupiter is conspicuous and above-right of the Moon low in the E. Saturn is bright and 15° high in the SE. Mars, rising in the NE by 22:30, is prominent in Taurus where it is just below the Moon on Friday night. Brilliant Venus is low in the E for one hour before sunrise. Alan Pickup

TODAY'S WEATHER



UK and Ireland forecast

Mist and fog patches will clear through the morning to leave much of England and eastern Scotland dry with sunny spells and just the small chance of a few isolated showers. Cloud and rain with some heavy downpours and thunder will spread across Ireland during the morning. This area of rain will move into parts of Wales, northwestern England and western Scotland through the afternoon

REGIONAL FORECASTS

London, SE England

Fog clearing and staying mostly dry with sunny spells. Light southerly winds. Max 22C. Tonight, patchy fog. Min 10C

Midlands, E England

Early fog clearing then mainly dry although rather cloudy. Light southerly winds. Max 23C. Tonight, patchy fog. Min 11C

Channel Is, SW and Cent S England, S Wales Sunny intervals and a few isolated showers. Light to moderate southerly winds. Max 21C. Tonight, patchy fog. Min 10C

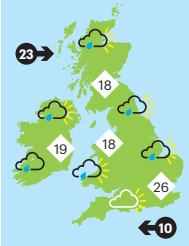
N Wales, NW England, Isle of Man Dry at first with patchy rain later in the day. Light to moderate southerly winds. Max 22C. Tonight, showery rain. Min 12C

Cent N and NE England Mainly dry with sunny spells, cloudier later. Light southerly winds. Max 22C. Tonight, patchy rain at times. Min 12C

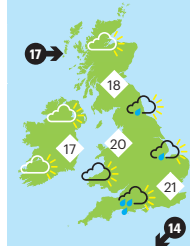
Scotland Sunny spells in the east, rain in the west later. Light to moderate southerly winds. Max 20C. Tonight, rain. Min 7C

N Ireland, Republic of Ireland Rain and thundery showers. Light to fresh southerly winds. Max 20C. Tonight, showery rain and fog. Min 11C

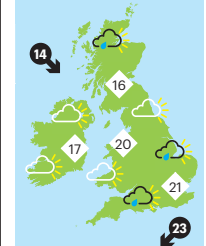
THE WEEK AHEAD



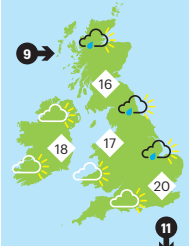
Monday Rain in the northwest, drier in the southeast. Max 26C



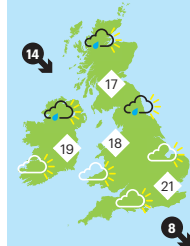
Tuesday The chance of rain in the south, drier elsewhere. Max 21C



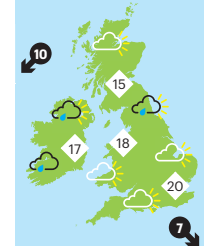
Wednesday Patchy rain clearing the southeast. Max 21C



Thursday Showers in the northeast, drier elsewhere. Max 20C



Friday Scattered showers in the north, drier in the south. Max 21C



Saturday A few showers although most places staying dry. Max 20C



LEON NEAL/GETTY IMAGES; TOBY MELVILLE; LEON NEAL; JAMES MANNING/PA



PIKEMEN MARCH  
LONDON BACK TO  
17TH CENTURY

The Company of Pikemen & Musketeers processed to the City for the second public reading of the proclamation of the accession of the King, lining up in formation once they arrived, centre right. The principal proclamation was made from the balcony at St James's Palace, and the second at the Royal Exchange, where a bugler sounded, top right, and a pikeman waited for the official

declaration. Proclamations will be made today in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The Company of Pikemen & Musketeers is a ceremonial unit of the Honourable Artillery Company, the oldest regiment in the army. No more than 63 members can be on parade at any one time, that being the size of a company in the 17th century.



# A LIFE OF SERVICE

JOIN US TODAY AS  
WE CELEBRATE THE REIGN  
OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II



Freeview 237 | Sky 526 | Virgin Media 627  
DAB | Smart Speaker





Clockwise from bottom far left: the flypast during Trooping the Colour was a little too loud for Prince Louis on the balcony of Buckingham Palace during the Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June; the Queen in full regalia as sovereign of the Order of the Thistle amid the natural grandeur of her Balmoral estate in Aberdeenshire; sharing a laugh with the Duke of Edinburgh in 2003 as a swarm of bees throws a military parade at Windsor Castle into disarray; congratulating Charles at a polo tournament in 1985; visiting the newly completed Elizabeth Line at Paddington Station this May; and with men of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders after their tour of Iraq in 2004





The Queen and Prince Philip visit the field of poppies created by Paul Cummins at the Tower of London in 2014. Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red comprised 888,246 ceramic flowers, one for each British and colonial serviceman lost in the Great War



Millions cannot even recall a time before Elizabeth was on the throne. *Max Hastings* pays tribute to a figure who defined Britain



She would have been the last person to claim supernatural powers, but Queen Elizabeth II accomplished a considerable miracle. She sustained Britain's monarchy for seven decades, between the eras of steam and Zoom. Born when some ducal footmen were still required to wear hair powder, she died when the necktie was threatened with extinction.

She was the living embodiment of an institution for which there is no rational justification whatsoever, as many intelligent people, not all of them American, decided several centuries ago. Yet she departed possessing the gratitude and respect of the overwhelming majority of her subjects, who today find it hard to come to terms with a world from which she is absent.

She was a bastion of stability and continuity, head of state in good times and bad, so that there was never any question of that role being stripped from her family and passing to an elected politician: none in today's parliament appears remotely capable of filling her size 4 shoes. No other human being of her generation encountered so many towering figures, from Winston Churchill to John F Kennedy and Nelson Mandela. Her cumulative experience conferred upon the Queen a unique aura. She invited a deference that even few national leaders begrudged her.

When humbler folk were fortunate enough to be invited to luncheons at Buckingham Palace, never for a moment were we foolish enough to suppose our hostess commonplace merely because we watched her feeding postprandial treats to her unlovable corgis and discussed with her the prospects for the salmon-fishing season.

The generation, including me as a child, that watched the 1953 coronation on fuzzy, grey yet magical television sets recall being invited to become "New Elizabethans". In those innocent times the phrase conveyed authentic romance when coupled to the ethereal little person who had assumed Britain's absurdly large crown.

She lived surrounded by a blaze of uniforms, and visibly relaxed in the company of soldiers and sailors. They

embody the traditional values she herself espoused, loyalty chief among them. They could be trusted not to betray her secrets. A general who spent an hour with her observed to me afterwards: "We talked about all sorts of things ... because she knew they would go no further." Nor have they.

How did she triumph in the role, this slight figure for whom opacity was written into the title deeds of her throne? Discipline and courage were foremost, interwoven with a heroic sense of duty. She understood from an early age that she must deny herself the exuberance of youth in favour of an existence clad in corsets, figuratively speaking. She could lower the mask of royalty with her husband and beloved dogs and horses, but in the company of no one else, not even entirely among her children.

Although she sometimes shared her family's enjoyment of earthy party jokes and games, she was a profoundly serious woman. Her critics asserted that she lacked culture and imagination, but how could any human being have done her job who succumbed to the follies and impulses permitted to most of us?

Even in her twenties she could never drink too much or leap naked into a swimming pool, swear at tiresome people, display boredom or commit any of the indiscretions for which lesser mortals are forgiven. She was the Queen, morning, noon and night.

Oddly enough, in the eyes of "normal" people, and fortunately for her subjects, she grew to relish the job. When there was speculation that she might abdicate in favour of her son, I remember her private secretary of the time saying with wry amusement: "People don't understand. She *likes* being Queen."

We have become largely irreligious and certainly almost un-Christian. Morality, whether sexual or ethical, is dismissed by cabinet ministers as "oh so silly and 20th century!". Yet the nation deeply appreciated a monarch who embodied virtue and believed in God.

None among her former prime ministers has suggested she was guilty of indiscretion in her treatment of them, though few people doubt that she liked Churchill more than Tony Blair, Harold

Continued on page 2➔

# ELIZABETH THE GREAT







# A glorious journey from the era of steam to the age of streaming

→ Continued from page 1

Wilson much more than Margaret Thatcher. It is hard to imagine that she achieved empathy with the recently departed tenant of Downing Street.

There was no constitutional crisis during her reign, but some eyebrows were raised when, in 1963, after Harold Macmillan's resignation on health grounds, she invited Alec Douglas-Home rather than Rab Butler to form a government. The choice had been made on the advice of the tiny Tory "magic circle" rather than through any remotely democratic process.

None of this means, of course, that she was an entirely admirable human being. Her considerable failure as a mother – an early working mother – is self-evident. Especially in the last decade of her reign she proved unwilling or unable to exercise control over the wider royal family, yet also declined to instruct anyone else to do so.

Almost all members of "the Firm" view themselves as so different from other human beings that they are seldom susceptible to wise guidance or compliant with the code of manners we accept. Rarely if ever in private conversation does any royal express even a polite interest in the affairs of others. Even the most senior royal staff are treated as servants.

At a dinner long ago I heard the daughter of the most distinguished of the Queen's former private secretaries inveigh against the lack of gratitude shown by the royals for his years of service – the missed holidays and ruined weekends; the many crises managed in exchange for a paltry salary. I suddenly noticed her elderly father listening on the far side of the table, with a little smile on his lips. I waited for him to contradict her. He did not.

Egoism, self-obsession, is perhaps inescapable in the members of any family permitted and even encouraged to live as do royals, with nobody to enforce that dreaded but necessary word in the lives of the rest of us: no. Yet this conceit is dangerous in an age when every monarchy's survival is precarious. The throne has been rocked by the ill-judged or outright deplorable behaviour of a procession of princes, of whom Andrew has been only the most flagrant.

## A LIFETIME OF SERVICE

**1926**  
Princess Elizabeth is born at 2.40am on April 21 at the London townhouse of her maternal grandparents, the Earl and Countess of Strathmore – 17 Bruton Street, in Mayfair



**1936**  
After the abdication of her uncle Edward VIII, Elizabeth's father accedes to the throne as George VI, making her "heir presumptive" at the age of 10



**1939**  
Elizabeth, 13, and her sister Margaret, 8, tour Dartmouth naval college. That summer she begins exchanging letters with Prince Philip, then an 18-year-old naval cadet



**1940**  
At 14, Elizabeth makes her first public speech, a comforting BBC radio broadcast to the children of the Commonwealth, thousands of whom have become wartime evacuees

**1944**  
Elizabeth is given a Pembroke Welsh corgi as an 18th birthday present by her father. The dog, Susan, is royally cared for until its death in 1959, and is the ancestor of all her later corgis







Elizabeth aged two in 1928, far left; at Windsor aged 15 in 1941, top left, and on the eve of her 14th birthday in 1940, left; and with her sister Margaret and father George VI in an undated still from film footage, below. In 1942 she became Colonel of the Grenadier Guards, right. At her own insistence she joined the Auxiliary Territorial Service aged 18 in March 1945, training as a lorry driver and mechanic; she later highlighted the role of women in wartime in an exhibition at the Imperial War Museum, above



The Queen appears never to have cracked the whip to curb the grotesquely exaggerated sense of entitlement of her family. She always flinched from controversy. In old age she preferred not to confront unpleasant realities, foremost among them the fact that some of those who appeared with her on the palace balcony at great occasions were embarrassments to the monarchy, rather than assets to it.

The vacuum at the top permitted some of those closest to the Queen to embrace charlatans with open wallets. The shortcomings of even the Prince of Wales's judgment have been exposed by his acceptance of big-ticket favours from disreputable people.

The mirror image of the Queen's stoicism in her public role has been an emotional paralysis in some of her private relationships. Many stories are told about the monarch's inability to communicate frankly with her nearest and dearest in the fashion that most of us take for granted.

The least believable scenes in the Netflix series *The Crown* are those in which the monarch is depicted discussing her

intimate affairs with her children and her prime ministers. It is unlikely that the Queen could have triumphed as she did, had she in truth been vulnerable to the passion for self-revelation in which the Prince of Wales, now King Charles, has luxuriated.

An important part of the Queen's genius – that word is used advisedly – as a constitutional monarch was that, because we knew absolutely nothing about her opinions, each and every one of her subjects could attach to her any viewpoint we chose.

We might guess that she hated rock music, deplored certain of her prime ministers and preferred the company of her racehorse trainer to that of Booker prizewinning novelists. It was widely hinted that she was a Leaver. We never knew, however.

The moment a royal expresses views, however admirable they may be in the eyes of some people, they must antagonise others. Charles could prove a more interesting ruler, as well as human being, than his mother. But those of us who passionately desire the monarchy to continue would argue that it is not the

role of the institution or of its living embodiment to be interesting.

The Queen was an exceptionally strong woman, both physically and mentally. Yet it is doubtful that she could have achieved such success without Prince Philip. Her consort for three quarters of her lifetime, he provided the only wholly trusting relationship, a life-giving one, that she deemed permitted to her, save that with her parents.

It would be naive to pretend that the marriage was seamlessly happy – there were periods of the 1950s when an obvious coldness descended upon the couple. Stories were told of fierce rows, most related to Prince Philip's determination to retain some measure of independence – he would have said, of self-respect. For the most part, however, it was a wonderfully successful partnership.

We are all people of our time and place, formed by the upbringing we chance to experience. Thus we should scarcely be surprised that this was true of the Queen. Her lifestyle of choice, especially in leisure, was that of a 20th or even 19th-century countrywoman. It focused upon the family's private resi-

“  
Even in her twenties she could never drink too much or leap naked into a swimming pool

dences at Balmoral and Sandringham, both bought by her forebears as temples for the worship of field sports.

She gave way to the most conspicuous animation when watching racehorses run, especially her own, and loved to work her labradors at pheasant and grouse shoots. She was a keen deer-stalker who – *pace* Helen Mirren's sentimental moments in the film *The Queen* – had not the slightest scruple about squeezing a trigger.

She possessed an encyclopaedic knowledge of thoroughbred breeding and was seldom happier than when herself in the saddle at Windsor or Sandringham. She started riding at the age of three and was still taking out her Fell pony – and still refusing to wear a riding hat – at 95.

Her evident rapture at the annual Royal Windsor Horse Show made clear where her heart truly lay. Weekending in the country houses of others who shared her rural tastes, or on the hill in the Scottish Highlands, she came nearer to showing her real self, to letting her hair down an inch, than in any other settings.

When she ascended the throne, the aristocrats who filled almost all the Palace's key roles were still significant people in British life. This is no longer the case. It is not a matter of wokeness, but instead of common sense, to assert that the next generation of royal functionaries needs to reflect modern British society rather than that of the strawberry leaves and coronets in which the Queen grew up.

When her diaries are eventually published, posterity is unlikely to be treated to many revelations. She was a simple person, in the best sense of that adjective, single-mindedly committed to doing what she had been brought up to believe was right. Though almost uneducated, she displayed an instinctive wisdom that grew through her unique accumulated experience.

She grieved deeply over the 1997 retirement of the royal yacht *Britannia*, because she had known such happiness within its immaculately panelled living spaces. *Britannia* offered grace, dignity and privacy. It reflected the great naval heritage epitomised by the Spithead

**Continued on page 4 →**

## 1944

The princess launches her first vessel, striking the £11.5 million Royal Navy battleship HMS Vanguard with a bottle of champagne in Clydebank



## 1945

On VE Day, May 8, Elizabeth and Princess Margaret mingle incognito with jubilant crowds in central London celebrating victory in Europe after nearly six years of war

## 1947

Elizabeth wears a pearly satin gown designed by Norman Hartnell for her wedding to Prince Philip, who becomes the Duke of Edinburgh, at Westminster Abbey

## 1948

Elizabeth gives birth to her first child, Prince Charles Philip Arthur George, on November 14 in the Belgian Suite on the ground floor of Buckingham Palace

## 1950

Her second child and only daughter, Princess Anne Elizabeth Alice Louise, is born on August 15 at Clarence House

## 1952

While touring Kenya in February, she receives the news that her 56-year-old father has died of lung cancer. She accedes to the throne as Elizabeth II at the age of 25

## 1952

The Queen gives her first Christmas Day message to the people, broadcasting live on radio from Sandringham House. Her first televised Christmas message comes five years later



# She knew that keeping her thoughts secret would keep her subjects loyal



Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret in 1946, left. The first colour photo of Anne, in her mother's arms, appeared in 1951, with Philip holding Charles. Crowds look on as the Queen drives in Windsor with Prince Charles and Princess Anne in 1957, below



**Continued from page 3→**  
review in 1953 of the serried ranks of warships Britain then possessed.

It may seem absurd to suggest that a woman who spent her life in palaces, waited upon by flunkies, was austere. Yet she never showed a hint of the fussiness that causes her son to carry with him wherever he visits his own towels and wine.

The Queen's devotion to her own mother became clouded by dismay over the older Elizabeth's extravagance. When her private secretary showed her an item in the papers one day in 1992, reporting that the late racehorse owner and breeder Jim Joel had bequeathed the Queen Mother a choice of two animals from his stable, the Queen observed laconically: "Oh dear."

Some of the Prince of Wales's limitations must be attributed to his mother's lack of generosity towards him. Her refusal to grant him a real role through his apparently interminable limbo years of waiting to assume the crown increased the petulance and self-pity that are his most conspicuous weaknesses and caused him once to say to me: "Nobody but me can possibly

understand how perfectly bloody it is to be Prince of Wales!"

There was an embarrassing moment when an American leader arrived in Britain on a state visit and Charles, wishing to plead his environmental causes, wailed to the foreign secretary: "I've only got an hour with the president and Mummy has got an hour and a half. I need the extra time!"

As a newspaper editor in the 1990s I experienced, like others, the bitter, self-harming competition as Charles and Diana strove to impose their rival narratives upon the world. We heard much from frustrated courtiers about the Queen's inability to communicate meaningfully with her son.

Diana often paid private tribute to the Queen's sympathetic behaviour towards her, adding: "I don't think Charles can do it!" She meant, of course, that she thought her husband unfit to succeed to the throne, which she wanted to pass directly to Prince William.

Yet, while it is easy to point to the Queen's sins of omission, especially in the 1990s as her children's marriages collapsed, it is much harder to identify sins of commission – any lapse of judg-

ment or of commitment in her service to her people. Despite the wretchedness of Prince Andrew's conduct and, in a different fashion, that of her grandson Prince Harry, her concluding two decades have been magnificent.

It was welcome that she reluctantly acknowledged the absolute necessity of banishing Andrew, as well as Harry, from the Buckingham Palace balcony at her Platinum Jubilee celebration. The monarchy can hope to continue only if it sustains a standard of conduct that some members of the royal family have found insupportable, thus obliging themselves to relinquish its privileges.

The Queen herself, meanwhile, continued to the very end to offer us all a masterclass in how to accomplish old age with courage and dignity, sustaining her extraordinarily long record of devoted service to her people.

If, towards the end, she cherished regrets, we may suspect that some must have been about her family, but most concerned the shrunken status of her realm and of her beloved Commonwealth since she assumed the throne.

The latter institution started life as a symbol of the forgiveness of our former



1953

The Queen and 100,000 football fans attend the FA Cup final at Wembley, and watch Blackpool beat Bolton Wanderers 4-3



1953

The coronation takes place at Westminster Abbey on a rainy day in June, with more than 20 million Britons watching on black-and-white televisions

1954

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh complete a six-month tour of the Commonwealth, including visits to Bermuda, Jamaica, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, Uganda, Malta and Gibraltar

1960

Prince Andrew Albert Christian Edward is born at Buckingham Palace – the first child to be born to a reigning monarch for more than a century, since the birth of Queen Victoria's daughter Princess Beatrice

1964

The Queen's youngest child and third son, Prince Edward Antony Richard Louis, is born at Buckingham Palace

1969

The fly-on-the-wall TV documentary Royal Family, depicting the everyday life of the Windsors – and showing the Queen buying ice cream in a shop – is watched by 23 million Britons



1974

The Queen flies back from New Zealand in February when the prime minister, Edward Heath, asks her to dissolve parliament so that a snap election can be held amid a mounting energy crisis



1977

The nation celebrates the Silver Jubilee with thousands of street parties, while the Sex Pistols score a No 2 hit with God Save the Queen. It is swiftly banned by the BBC







The Queen poses for a 50th birthday portrait, left, at Windsor Castle in 1976. Above, the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant in 2012, which featured a flotilla of 1,000 boats, was marred by traditional British weather

subject colonies for Britain’s long imperial dominion. Today, however, the Commonwealth is deeply damaged by the spectre of slavery and dismay over the historic treatment of indigenous people. The Queen’s personal magic kept it on life support. Now that she is gone, it is hard to believe that it will long endure.

Her Majesty’s passing must inflict a trauma on the British people. She has been part of the existence of the overwhelming majority of us since the days we were born. It would be foolish to urge that her successor’s reign resemble in all respects that of his mother.

She sustained the lifestyle, rituals and palaces of an imperial monarch, in defiance of gravity. It is a sort of madness that the extended family circulates between Buckingham Palace, Kensington Palace, St James’s Palace, Windsor Castle, Sandringham, Balmoral, Birkhall, Clarence House, the Castle of Mey, Highgrove and other substantial private residences funded from royal purses.

Yet, even if many of the houses go – as they should – in one critical respect the Queen should remain King Charles’s exemplar. She will be remembered not for what she did but for what she was. It was by doing so little, while being so much, that she triumphed. She was a rock amid the shifting sands of her diminished nation and Commonwealth.

The continuing existence of this gilded constitutional anachronism can be justified by only one mandate – not

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**She imbued majesty with a grace and a curious kind of modesty. She was an object of fascination to the world**

that of God, as many monarchs have chosen to believe, perhaps including Elizabeth II, but instead the will of the British people. The new monarch can achieve success by emulating his mother as a decorative national figurehead in a bewilderingly complex world. He will almost certainly fail, however, if he breaks with her example and seeks to become a crowned doer.

As a regal conversational gambit, “Have you come far?” has been much mocked. Yet it constitutes the prudent limit of engagement in controversy for a king who aspires to sustain Britain’s monarchy as did the Queen. She imbued majesty with a grace and a curious kind of modesty that made her the principal ornament of her realm, an object of fascination to the world, whose peoples flocked to Britain partly to gaze upon the rituals and trappings of royalty.

To borrow Marvell’s lines on the passing of her distant, and incomparably less successful, forebear King Charles I: “She nothing common did or mean.” She was with us for so long that it is only now she is gone that we can fully appreciate our good fortune in having been her subjects ■

1981

Six shots are fired at the Queen during the Trooping the Colour ceremony. The teenage culprit, Marcus Sarjeant, who was firing blanks, is jailed for five years



1982

The Queen awakes to discover Michael Fagan in her bedroom at Buckingham Palace. The 33-year-old intruder chats to her for several minutes before help arrives and he is ejected



1986

A royal press secretary tells The Sunday Times that the Queen regards Margaret Thatcher’s government as “uncaring” and “divisive”. A Palace denial follows



1991

The Queen becomes the first British monarch to address the US Congress. She thanks the American armed forces for their “courage and prowess” in the Gulf War and for their help in other conflicts



1992

The “annus horribilis” is marked by the marital difficulties of Andrew, Anne and Charles and capped by a fire at Windsor Castle on the Queen’s sapphire wedding anniversary







The Queen cuddles her youngest great-grandchild at the time, 11-month-old Princess Charlotte, at Windsor Castle in 2016. Her big brother George, then 2, stands next to her. Also pictured, from left, are James, Viscount Severn, 8, and his sister, Lady Louise, 12,

Mia Tindall, 2, Savannah Phillips, 5, and her sister Isla, 3. Left, Prince George stands on foam blocks in a photoshoot to mark her 90th birthday. Right, the Queen and Philip chuckle at a homemade anniversary card from George, Charlotte and Louis in 2020

1993

She becomes the first monarch to open Buckingham Palace to the public, allowing £8 tours of the house in August and September to help pay for restoration work at Windsor

1997

The Queen disappoints many with an understated response to the death of Diana. On returning to London from Balmoral, she pays tribute to “an exceptional and gifted human being”

1997

The Queen wipes away a tear during the decommissioning service in December for the royal yacht Britannia, which had served her for 44 years

2002

Before the Queen celebrates her Golden Jubilee, she mourns the death of her sister in February and that of the Queen Mother seven weeks later

2003

In December the Queen has surgery to remove torn cartilage from her right knee. A similar procedure on her left knee follows 11 months later

2005

In April, Prince Charles marries Camilla Parker Bowles, who is made the Duchess of Cornwall, in a civil ceremony, followed by a blessing at St George’s Chapel, Windsor Castle

2010

The Queen becomes a great-grandmother with the birth of a daughter, Savannah Anne Kathleen, to Peter and Autumn Phillips

2011

The Queen pays a state visit to Ireland – the first monarch to do so since her grandfather George V visited a century earlier, before Irish independence





Clockwise from above, the Queen and Princess Diana attend the opening of parliament in 1982. Charles and Camilla on their wedding day in 2005; William and Kate

kiss after their marriage in 2011; the Queen and Kate on a visit to Nottingham as part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations in 2012; the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh share a light-hearted

moment at Buckingham Palace in 2004; the Queen and Prince Philip inspect the floral tributes to Diana outside Buckingham Palace after her death in 1997



2012

In a short film for the opening ceremony of the London Olympics, the Queen appears to parachute from a helicopter alongside James Bond, played by Daniel Craig



2014

The monarch sends her first tweet, writing at the Science Museum that she is pleased to open its new gallery documenting the history of modern communications. She signs the message “Elizabeth R”



2015

On September 9 she becomes Britain's longest-reigning monarch, surpassing her great-great-grandmother Queen Victoria's record of 63 years and 217 days

2016

Her 90th birthday celebrations include the Patron's Lunch on the Mall, to honour the Queen's patronage of hundreds of charities. With 10,000 guests, it is the biggest street party Britain has seen



2017

The Queen attends church in Sandringham on January 8, having been forced by a heavy cold to miss her customary services over Christmas and the new year

2022

Having celebrated her Platinum Jubilee, the Queen dies at the age of 96 at Balmoral Castle. Her four children and Prince William and Harry had travelled to Scotland



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The Queen with her six maids of honour and the Dowager Duchess of Devonshire, her mistress of the robes. Lady Glenconner, then Lady Anne Coke, is third from the left

# It’s Coronation Day: ‘Ready, girls?’

Lady Glenconner, one of Elizabeth’s six maids of honour when she was crowned, tells *Oliver Thring* how a supremely calm Queen launched the ceremony with two simple words

Proud but nervous on a rainy midsummer morning, the six maids of honour waited before the nave of Westminster Abbey. Inside, the abbey was crowded almost to the rafters, with heads of state, white-haired dignitaries, politicians, senior clerics and aristocratic families from around the world.

At the head of the maids of honour stood Elizabeth, robed in ermine. She was staring ahead, her face calm but unsmiling. She seemed to be thinking only of dignity and duty. “But then she turned to us maids of honour,” Lady Glenconner recalled in 2013, “and said, ‘Ready, girls?’ It was the first time we had heard her speak that day.”

Before and throughout the long service, the Queen never hinted that she might be feeling anxious or tentative. “She didn’t say anything. She wore a very calm expression. She was concentrating so hard,” said Glenconner. “Everyone present knew that they were living through a moment of history: this was the most important public ceremony of the century so far.

“We were putting on a real show to celebrate winning the war. I didn’t think once about what it might have cost. You must remember that on VE Day [in 1945], everyone was still in uniform.”

The maids of honour were all daughters of dukes, marquesses and earls. Aged between 17 and 23, they were all unmarried and had been chosen for their beauty as much as their lineage.

“We looked right,” said Glenconner, who, as the daughter of the 5th Earl of Leicester, was known then as Lady Anne Coke. Her family seat, Holkham Hall, was a few miles from Sandringham, and she said the Cokes and Windsors “used to go to each other’s birthday parties”.

The maids of honour were to carry Elizabeth’s heavy ermine train as she walked before them. This gave them an almost unparalleled close-up of the young monarch – especially when the television cameras were switched off. Behind the maids were the ladies-in-waiting, Glenconner’s mother among them. “We were the only mother and daughter participating in the service,” she recalled with pride.

Preparations had been extensive. The Coronation Commission, chaired by Prince Philip, first met 14 months before the service. “We practised with the Duchess of Norfolk, who turned out to walk rather more slowly than the Queen,” Glenconner said. “The Queen came only to the final rehearsal.” The Duke of Norfolk directed proceedings: “He was a stern man, quite the sergeant-major. But then he had to be. I think he was rather proud of us girls.”

The maids rose at 4.30am on the day for make-up. News of Edmund Hillary’s ascent of Everest reached the party. Then, while they waited in their beautiful but uncomfortable Norman Hartnell dresses: “Suddenly this roar from the crowd came up. I saw the coach begin to turn the corner, and there it was. It was like something out of a fairy story.”

The maids watched the Duke of Edinburgh help the Queen down the tiny steps of the coach. “She was looking down – it would have been awful if she had slipped,” Glenconner said. But when she reached the ground, the Queen lifted her head: “She looked incredible. She had the most wonderful figure, with a tiny waist. She had the most beautiful complexion, and such bright eyes.”

Elizabeth was not thinking only of her own actions and bearing that day. Glenconner said: “I hadn’t slept all night and the dress was terribly tight. At one point, everything went black – I was about to faint.” The Queen noticed and motioned to one of the other maids to escort her from the abbey. But she rallied. “Luckily, Black Rod put his arm out to hold me up, and I soon felt better. When the service was over, the Archbishop of Canterbury gave me a nip of brandy, which I was very grateful for.

“The most moving part, and perhaps the most important for the Queen,” Glenconner said, “was when she was anointed with holy oil. That wasn’t televised because it was religious.”

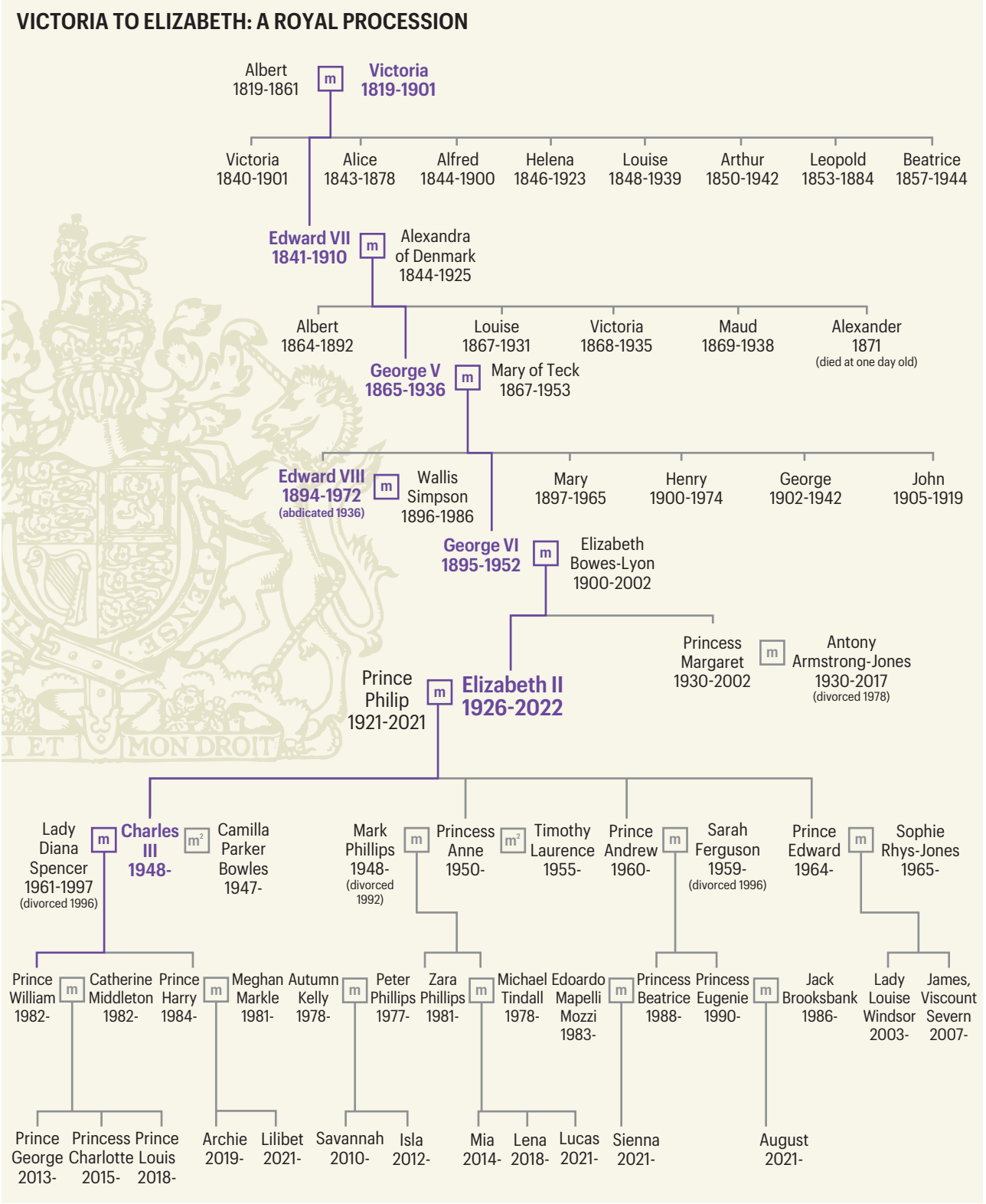
The Marquess of Cholmondeley – a man who had “barely ever had to tie his own shoelaces” – was charged with fitting the Queen into a white linen dress for the occasion. “He struggled with its hooks and eyes,” Glenconner said, “and the Duke of Norfolk got quite cross at that.” But when he finally managed to fit the Queen into the dress, she pledged to serve the nation and Commonwealth.

Later, Glenconner said, “Prince Philip came up, knelt before her and kissed her on the cheek. That was terribly touching.”

Back at Buckingham Palace, after the fly-past, the maids watched the Queen kick off her shoes, take off her crown and sit on a sofa. Prince Charles, then four years old and excited by the day’s commotion, tried to snatch the crown. A maid of honour reached it just in time.

Glenconner became lady-in-waiting to Princess Margaret for 34 years. She saw the Queen quite frequently, she said, although they discussed the coronation only once: “After my mother died, the Queen told me how sorry she was. I said that one of the nicest moments that my mother and I had shared had been the coronation. The Queen said, ‘Yes, I realise how nice that must have been for you. After all, my mother was watching too.’” ■

**“The Queen looked incredible. She had a wonderful figure, with a tiny waist. And such bright eyes**





# She couldn’t have done it without Philip, Duke of Blunt

The prince dutifully spent a lifetime two paces behind the Queen – but not without testing her devotion. *Penny Junor* examines the extraordinary love behind a formidable team

‘A ll too often, I fear, Prince Philip has had to listen to me speaking,’ the Queen said on her golden wedding anniversary in 1997 – as she repeated the offence. “Frequently we have discussed my intended speech beforehand and, as you will imagine, his views have been expressed in a forthright manner. “He is someone who doesn’t take easily to compliments, but he has, quite simply, been my strength and stay all these years, and I, and his whole family, and this and many other countries, owe him a debt greater than he would ever claim or we shall ever know.” If there was one single aspect of the Queen’s long life that stands out among the multitude of qualities and achievements for which she will be remembered, it was her remarkable – to some inexplicable – rock-solid marriage to the Duke of Edinburgh. He was one of the most irascible, outspoken and downright rude figures in public life; he was also a bully with a terrifying temper. Yet he gave up most of the things he cared about to support his wife, to spend a lifetime playing second fiddle and walking two paces behind her. Had she not fallen in love with him, while visiting Dartmouth naval college with her parents and sister when she was 13 years old and he was an 18-year-old cadet, who knows how different she, the monarchy and the history of the past seven decades would have been?

Philip was an impoverished, rootless prince of Greece with a fractured and dispossessed family, whose uncle, Lord Mountbatten, was ambitious for his nephew. Mountbatten was a good friend of King George VI, but many in the royal circle were suspicious of him and of his charming, athletic and handsome nephew. In the postwar climate, the establishment would have preferred a rich homegrown aristocrat for the princess. They suspected that Philip was a fortune-hunter, which had been the widespread perception of Prince Albert, another penniless prince, who had married Queen Victoria about 100 years earlier.

Elizabeth and Philip became engaged in 1946 but her parents insisted they wait a year before marrying – and in the intervening time took her to South Africa in an attempt to broaden her horizons – but she was not to be dissuaded. Absence only made her more resolute, and in 1947, at the age of 21, she married him.

Against all the odds, it was a



Philip and Elizabeth on honeymoon in Hampshire in 1947

formidable partnership that withstood many a trial and tribulation – not least his discovery that their children were to be called Windsor, like their mother. He had already given up his Greek royal title. “I am the only man in the country not allowed to give his name to his children,” he raged. “I’m nothing but a bloody amoeba.” That was closely followed by the loss of the naval career he loved.

They were just five years into their marriage, and on safari in Kenya, when her father, the King, died. Philip was the one who broke the news to Elizabeth. He took her into the garden of the small hotel where they were staying, and by the time she came back inside, her carefree life as a wife and mother was over.

Lady Pamela Mountbatten, her lady-in-waiting, watched them anxiously from the window. They were “doing the naval quarterdeck thing”, recalled Lady Pamela, “of pacing up and turning back, pacing up and turning back, pacing up and turning back for a few minutes. Then they came back in, and I, thinking

that she had lost her father, whom she loved, rushed up and gave her a hug and thought how awful for you, and then I suddenly thought, my God, she’s Queen: remember to curtsy. She was always so considerate and she just said, ‘I’m so sorry: it means we’re all going to have to go back home.’”

While the new Queen got on with the affairs of state, Philip took care of everything else, and although he ruffled more than a few feathers along the way, he was very successful in his quest to be “useful”. He managed the estates at Balmoral, Windsor and Sandringham and turned them into shining examples of best practice in sustainable farming and wildlife preservation. Passionate about giving young people the opportunity to achieve their potential, he founded the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award scheme, which more than eight million young people have participated in worldwide.

He was the table-thumping president of the World Wildlife Fund from 1981 to 1996 and was an



“Elizabeth was more important on the world stage but Philip ruled the family



Philip at a polo game in 1961, and playing cricket, left, in 1957. He was “the only man in the world who treated the Queen simply as another human being”

internationally recognised conservationist and environmentalist, campaigning, lobbying and raising money tirelessly for more than 50 years. He championed the countryside, biodiversity and organic farming; loved shooting, fishing and deer-stalking and the management of game stock and habitat. He fought to save the country’s open spaces from developers and our historic ships from their watery graves or the breaker’s yard.

While Elizabeth was the more important of the two on

the world stage, he ruled the roost in the family. He made the decisions, particularly about the children and their education.

At the time of the Diamond Jubilee in 2012, Prince William paid tribute to his grandfather and the part he had played.

“In the world that they were in,” he said, referring to the year she acceded to the throne, “it was almost back to front. The Queen was taking on her role in a man’s world. The Duke of Edinburgh was taking on the role of consort as a very successful naval

commander – and would have been an even bigger one. Yet both of them carved their own paths and have done that ever since, to brilliant standards. Together, they’re a very good team.”

Prince Harry went further. “Regardless of whether my grandfather seems to be doing his own thing, sort of wandering off like a fish down the river, the fact that he’s there – personally, I don’t think that she could do it without him, especially when they’re both at this age.”

She probably could not have done it without him at

any age. Lord Charteris, who worked for the Queen for 27 years, once summed it up: “Prince Philip is the only man in the world who treats the Queen simply as another human being. Strange as it may seem, I believe she values that. And, of course, it’s not unknown for the Queen to tell Prince Philip to shut up. Because she’s Queen, that’s not something she can easily say to anybody else.”

There were persistent rumours of affairs, but if they were true they seem to have been irrelevant. The

couple’s relationship was consistently strong, loving and mutually supportive, although the two of them had not just different temperaments but different interests.

As an old friend said: “They’re good together. They’re good for one another. They always have been.”

He cannot have been easy to live with, and she did occasionally refuse to speak to him until he was in a better temper, but they had huge affection and respect for each other. As a partnership for life, it was peerless ■



# Glorious reins: the sharp eye behind the Queen’s full-gallop passion

From her first ride at three, to winning race classics as an owner, the Queen had a formidable love and knowledge of all things equine, says *Julian Muscat*

**A**vivid illustration of the Queen’s love of racing was manifest in the monarch’s speech at the marriage of her son Charles to Camilla Parker Bowles. The wedding took place on the day of the Grand National in 2005, and the Queen could not resist making a connection. “I have two things to announce to you of the greatest importance,” she told assembled guests.

“The first is that the Grand National was won by Hedgehunter. The second is to say to you that, despite Becher’s Brook and the Chair and all kinds of other terrible obstacles, my son has come through. I’m very proud and wish them well.”

It was not the first time that Her Majesty’s thoughts strayed to racing as she addressed an audience. Two years earlier, in her annual speech to parliament, she made inadvertent reference to “the National Hunt Service” when she meant the health service.

These vignettes are apposite, since the Queen was never more engaged than when among horses. Racing may have preoccupied her, but her passion for all things equine knew no bounds. Be they thoroughbreds, show horses or eventers, Highland ponies, Shetland or Fell, she was enchanted by them all.

The five-day race meeting at Royal Ascot was an annual highlight, which she attended every year after her first visit to the course, aged 19, in 1945. She would start each day with a morning ride after breakfast in the grounds of Windsor Castle. Suitably invigorated, she would then entertain dignitaries to lunch before advancing on to Ascot for her afternoon’s entertainment.

Quite how Royal Ascot will hold up without her is one of the many imponderables the Queen leaves behind. Her daily presence was so emblematic that people travelled from far and wide to see her at her most relaxed. For them, it was a rare opportunity to stand in close proximity to a British monarch in full recreational mode. For her, it was a sanctuary from the unrelenting demands of public service, as was plain from her smiling demeanour.

The Queen’s interaction with horses was seemingly preordained. When she was a child, her grandfather, George V, would lower himself to his hands and knees so that the young princess could lead him forward by his beard, as though he was a horse. She had her first riding lesson aged three; the following year she was bequeathed her first pony, Peggy, and that was that – she was

ANN RONAN; DAVID LEVENSON/GETTY IMAGES



The Queen, right, samples the course on her horse Surprise during Royal Ascot in 1961. Left, she rides her pony in Windsor Great Park in the 1930s. President Ronald Reagan joins her for a ride in the grounds of Windsor Castle in 1982, below



“George V would get on his hands and knees so the young princess could lead him by his beard

still riding a pony at 90.

This calling found expression in myriad ways. A long-held ambition was to breed Highland ponies at Balmoral, where the Shetland was already in production. Her desire to preserve and enhance a breed that was officially “at risk” came to fruition in 2007.

The Highland pony stud at Balmoral was built from stables reclaimed when Prince Edward and his wife, the Countess of Wessex, renovated their property at Bagshot Park, on the Surrey border with Berkshire. The metal framework and wooden beams were transported to Scotland to be reassembled in

an old Victorian cowshed, and a cherished new venture was under way. For her rides around Windsor, the Queen turned to smaller Highland and Fell ponies when Sanction, who is buried in Windsor Park under the headstone “Favourite Riding Horse”, died in 2002.

While Her Majesty bred Sanction, whom she doted upon, another of her favourites, Burmese, was given to her by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in 1969. Burmese earned her place in the royal heart after the monarch rode her for 18 consecutive years at Trooping the Colour. The black mare came to greater public prominence in 1981, when a teenager at the ceremony fired blanks from a gun that startled Burmese but failed to ruffle her accomplished rider.

Princess Anne’s victory in eventing’s European championships at Burghley in 1971 was an altogether more joyous experience and a family triumph. The princess prevailed aboard Doublet, a horse bred by the Queen out of a polo mare belonging to Prince Philip. Like Sanction, Burmese and Doublet are commemorated by a headstone in Windsor Park.

While such triumphs represented high achievement, they were not what the Queen particularly craved. Her primary concern was for her horses’ welfare. She espoused the virtues of kindness over brute strength, never more so than in her approach to breaking in young horses.

She had heard of the extraordinary deeds of a self-styled Californian cowboy who would rise to global acclaim under another sobriquet, “the Horse Whisperer”. Monty Roberts was invited to Windsor to demonstrate his “Join-Up” techniques in 1989, and the repercussions were instant.

The Queen quickly adopted Roberts’s non-confrontational approach to breaking in young horses. His methods were revolutionary – so much so that the Queen insisted he write a book to spread the gospel. To date, *The Man Who Listens to Horses* has sold more than six million copies worldwide.

However, the most visible public expression of the Queen’s affection for horses was her love of flat racing. She inherited the Royal Studs at Sandringham in 1952 and became fascinated by the inexact science of breeding thoroughbreds. She immersed herself so intensely in this quest that royal historians declared her to be better informed than any of her antecedents.

Her infatuation with the sport stemmed from her inaugural visit, at the age of 16, to the Beckhampton stable of Fred Darling, who trained for her father. It was May 1942 and two of the King’s horses, Big Game and Sun Chariot, had recently won the season’s opening classics at Newmarket. Having run her palm down the silken coats of each racehorse, the young princess would not wash her hands for the rest of the day.

She could barely conceal her excitement when she received a thoroughbred filly foal as a wedding present from Aga Khan III. As it transpired, Astrakhan had troublesome knees, although she did manage to win an ordinary race in 1950.

The Royal Studs are the oldest thoroughbred breeding establishment in the world, and by any measure Her Majesty’s tenure enhanced them. Of the five classic races run annually in Britain, the only one to elude her was the Derby. She was the leading flat owner in Britain in 1954 and 1957, and Estimate’s triumph in the 2013 Gold Cup, Royal Ascot’s signature race, was the first posted by a British monarch in the 200-year history of the race.

For all the triumphs, notably the brace of classics won by Dunfermline in the Silver Jubilee year of 1977, the Queen was more concerned that each of her racehorses was given the opportunity to maximise its inherent ability. Conversely, those failing to make the grade were found new homes from which to pursue other equine disciplines.

The Queen took as much pleasure from winning ordinary races with moderate horses as from a winner at Royal Ascot, where her horses won 23 races. And she bankrolled her own success: not a penny from the public purse was spent on the Royal Studs.

With that era now over, it is daunting to contemplate how flat racing will evolve in the Queen’s absence. Her totemic presence on racecourses acted like a magnet, drawing wealthy Middle Eastern potentates to race their own horses in Britain, in the process ensuring that Britain remained pre-eminent in the global racing hierarchy. All for the love of a horse ■

*Julian Muscat is the author of Her Majesty’s Pleasure: How Horseracing Enthralled the Queen*







The Queen and two of her beloved corgis by a waterfall at Balmoral in 1971. Over the years she owned more than 30 dogs

# Love me, love my yapping, snapping, pampered corgis

The Queen could be highly disciplined but was butter-soft with her dogs. Often impish, they had the run of the palace, with food cooked by chefs and served in silver bowls, writes *Kate Williams*

Oh, to be a corgi! Princess Diana called them a “moving carpet”, they knocked her butler Paul Burrell unconscious and they snapped at courtiers with terrifying energy. But the Queen, tough and disciplined with staff and family, was as soft as butter with her pooches.

Her corgis, along with her “dorgis” (crossbreeds of dachshund and corgi), would have the run of the palace apartments, tucking into food cooked by the royal chefs and enjoying the everlasting confidence of their mistress.

Over the years the Queen owned more than 30 dogs, and corgis firmly established themselves as a symbol of her reign; in 2012 the trio of Monty, Willow and Holly even featured alongside her and Daniel Craig in the James Bond sketch she filmed for the London Olympics.

The short, squat-legged, floppy-eared Welsh breed had been beloved by the Queen ever since her father bought a male named Dookie in 1933, when she was six. Many corgis have a sweet, if yappish, temperament. Not so Dookie. He snapped at everybody except Elizabeth and her mother. At least one politician left the royal presence bleeding from a bite to the hand.



The royal dogs leave a plane after a trip to Scotland in 1998

When the Queen turned 18, she received her own corgi – Susan, a present from her father. Susan went everywhere with her – even on honeymoon. As Philip found out, he had married the corgis as well as the girl.

A role as a royal corgi is probably as good as it gets, in

terms for walks in the gardens of Buckingham Palace.

One of the most important tasks of a palace footman was to pamper the corgis. Their menu was pinned to the wall of the royal kitchens, and one of the chefs prepared their evening meal – freshly cooked steak, liver, rabbit and chicken, topped off with gravy and boiled cabbage. The food always had to be fresh – there was once a scandal in Balmoral when the Queen came to suspect that some of the food in the royal dog bowls might once have been frozen.

The Queen often put their dinner into their polished silver bowls, forking in the pieces of dog biscuit. Then it was time for bed in the special corgi room, their wicker baskets raised to cushion them from draughts. Very occasionally, they were allowed to sleep in the royal bedroom.

At Christmas the corgis, all descended from Susan, received their own stockings, full of chocolate drops and toys. When they died they were buried in royal grounds with headstones. Monty died in 2012, and in 2015 it was revealed that the Queen had decided to have no new corgis. Holly died at Balmoral in 2016, and Willow in 2018.

Her passion was not always shared by her family and staff. A footman was demoted for adding gin and whisky to the dogs’ food. Burrell was dragged down a flight of steps while leading nine of them out of the palace. The Duke of Edinburgh complained about the “bloody dogs”. And Charles? He much prefers labradors ■

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PATRICK LICHFIELD/GETTY IMAGES



# Windsors at war with the girl next door

Though she grew up in Sandringham’s shadow, Diana would never become close to her mother-in-law. A clash was inevitable, says the princess’s biographer *Andrew Morton*

If the conversation in the Queen’s sitting room at Buckingham Palace had gone differently, history might have handed Diana, Princess of Wales an alternative ending. Diana had made a teatime appointment to discuss her husband’s affair with Camilla Parker Bowles. The princess said her complaint over impeccably served cucumber sandwiches and lapsang souchong. Along with the tea she was looking for sympathy. But the topic was way too emotionally gamey for her regal mother-in-law. “Ostriching” was the phrase used to describe how the Queen reacted to difficult family issues.

The Queen twiddled her glasses, a worried look on her face. She suggested that Diana’s eating disorders were the cause rather than a symptom of her marital impasse. This teatime tête-à-tête, in the summer of 1990, marked the moment when Diana realised she was never going to win support from inside the royal family.

Prince Charles had broken his right arm while playing polo at Cirencester and was being nursed by Camilla – by then in effect mistress of Highgrove. In one tumultuous row he had said to Diana, petulantly: “Do you

really expect me to be the first Prince of Wales not to have a mistress?”

What could the Queen have done, even if she was minded to join her daughter-in-law’s cause? The conclusion that Diana reluctantly came to, which was thrilling, dangerous and daunting, was that she would have to go public. That desperate throw of the dice eventually resulted in the publication of my highly controversial “unofficially official” biography, *Diana: Her True Story*, published in June 1992 and first serialised by The Sunday Times.

While the inevitable focus was on the unworkable triangle of Charles, Diana and Camilla – “There were three of us in this marriage, so it was a bit crowded,” the princess said in her infamous *Panorama* interview – the marriage breakdown also infected and affected her relations with the rest of the royal family, not least the Queen.

The affair was the elephant in the royal salon. Perhaps the Queen subtly acknowledged the permanence of this pachyderm in her son’s life during her 1991 Christmas broadcast, when – in the interpretation of some royal-



Diana and the Queen at Buckingham Palace, above, on July 29, 1981, the day of her wedding to Prince Charles. She is seen comforting her bridesmaid Clementine Hambro, while India Hicks and Sarah-Jane Gaselee wait to the side

watchers – she said she would never abdicate. Certainly her daughter-in-law thought so. As Diana gleefully told her friends, Charles was so crestfallen to see the crown he coveted move immediately out of reach that he would not speak to his mother for several days afterwards and stamped down the corridors like “a bear with a sore head”.

It was a deliciously

satisfying conjecture on Diana’s part. Even though she had been in the Queen’s social orbit all her life, Diana found her difficult to read. Diana’s father, Earl Spencer, was an equerry to King George VI, and her family lived at Park House, next to the Queen’s 20,000-acre estate at Sandringham. But Diana never really got the measure of the royal family. As a youngster she disliked

the annual Christmas visits to the private cinema at Sandringham, on one occasion kicking and screaming in defiance.

During her marriage, her rebellious feelings were recast in another form. She found visits to Balmoral in the summer and Sandringham in the winter daunting and depressing. Unlike the Queen, she was the antithesis of a country person. A fall

from her horse as a child had made her nervous, and even though the Queen took her out riding, she showed little enthusiasm.

There was mutual incomprehension between Diana and the Queen on the subject of childrearing. During one stay at Balmoral the Queen expressed surprise that Diana was looking after baby William as his nanny was on holiday. “I don’t understand why Diana has to do this,” she said. “There are millions of housemaids around.”

Diana, whose parents had divorced acrimoniously, had been instinctively, naively, drawn to the royal family, universally portrayed as the embodiment of familial duty, love and affection. She never quite got over the disconnect between the cosy image and the brisk day-to-day reality, where she had to make an appointment to see her husband and he had to make an appointment to talk to his mother. Diana did not want William and Harry to be brought up “by a governess”, like Charles.

While mutual empathy proved an elusive commodity – she could never understand the Queen’s fondness for singing hymns at the end of a Balmoral supper – respect for the sovereign was unfailing. On Diana’s wedding day, dropping a proper curtsy to the Queen was one of her main concerns. Her deference to the monarch manifested itself in more bizarre forms. When she described throwing herself down the stairs at Sandringham while pregnant with Prince William, she told me that the Queen was first on the scene. Later, she asked that I alter the text to insert the Queen Mother’s name, a move clearly aimed at protecting the Queen by not involving her in the episode.

The Queen and Prince Philip did their best to accommodate the new arrival into the royal fold – just as they did later with other commoners, notably Sarah Ferguson, Sophie Rhys-Jones, Kate Middleton and, most recently, Meghan Markle. Such was the intensity of interest in the newly minted Princess of Wales that the Queen summoned Fleet Street editors to Buckingham Palace to ask them, in the nicest possible way, to “lay off” Diana.

When Barry Askew, the editor of the now-defunct News of the World, boldly stated that if the princess felt harassed by photographers, she should send a servant to shop for her, the Queen gave him a withering look: “I think that’s one of the most pompous things I have ever heard.” It is worth noting that the Queen probably undertook as many royal engagements in the company of the Duchess of Cambridge in the first year of her royal life as she did in the first decade with Diana.

During the momentous summer of 1991, when Fergie and Diana discussed jumping ship together, Diana left the Highland retreat without the Queen’s permission to visit a terminally ill friend, Adrian Ward-Jackson, who died shortly afterwards of Aids. She stayed with him, though the family insisted she return promptly to Balmoral: they felt a token visit would have sufficed.

This incident, together with Diana’s decision to shake an Aids patient’s hand at the Middlesex Hospital in 1987, marked the differing public styles of the Queen and the princess. At Diana’s funeral it was characterised as the trembling lower lip versus the stiff upper lip.

Yet while Diana’s public tears, hugging and touching were in sharp contrast to the Queen’s restrained body language, the latter’s handbag a sizeable shield against intimacy, the princess was no iconoclast. When I asked how she would change the monarchy, she said she would ensure better wheelchair access for Buckingham Palace garden parties.

During the early 1990s the Queen and Diana developed a much more cordial and relaxed relationship. Once, before a garden party on a stifling July afternoon in 1991, a friend offered Diana a fan to take with her. She refused, saying, in an awed, admiring tone: “I can’t do that. My mother-in-law is going to be standing there with her handbag, gloves, stockings and shoes.”

That convivial rapport changed for ever when Diana and Charles separated in December 1992. The Queen’s overriding priority was the preservation of the monarchy – just as it had been when she made difficult decisions about the romance between her younger sister, Princess Margaret, and Group Captain

Peter Townsend a generation earlier.

Diana still saw the Queen for tea, often taking the boys with her as icebreakers, but there was a distrustful wariness from then on. The Queen was worried that whatever she said might appear in the next day’s edition of the Daily Mail; Diana was concerned not to alienate the sovereign. Her greatest fear was that her children could be taken away from her: under British law, the sovereign has ultimate discretion over the upbringing and education of the immediate heirs to the throne.

When Diana threatened to move to Australia, it was pointed out that she would have to leave the boys behind. Diana did not need reminding that her mother, Frances Shand Kydd, had lost custody of her four children to Diana’s father. William and Harry were indeed on the Queen’s mind, but, as courtiers have pointed out, she saw her role as to protect and shield them in the increasingly acrimonious war of the Waleses.

The Queen and Prince Philip found Prince Charles’s authorised biography by Jonathan Dimbleby deeply distressing, particularly the passages suggesting that the prince was forced by his family to marry a woman he never loved. However, it was Diana’s decision to appear in the *Panorama* interview that ensured the Queen’s intervention. It surprised nobody when the Queen wrote to both parties requesting they divorce sooner rather than later.

Diana was stripped of her Her Royal Highness handle, a decision that rankled. “Diana needed no royal title to continue to generate her particular brand of magic,” said her brother, Charles, in his funeral eulogy. Diana had done little to cultivate allies inside the royal family – or “the Germans”, as she disparagingly called them. What sympathy she had provoked in them evaporated when she did *Panorama*.

Yet, as the funeral cortege went past Buckingham Palace, the Queen stood outside with the rest of the royal family and bowed her head. It was an appropriate acknowledgment of who Diana was and what she had achieved by a woman who otherwise bowed to nobody ■



PETER MACDIARMID, POPPERFOTO/GETTY IMAGES



A boy takes a selfie as the Queen visits Belfast in 2014. Technology has changed the world dramatically since she made her first radio broadcast, to the children of the Commonwealth, as her sister Margaret watched, on October 13, 1940, below

# Elizabeth took us from the stiff upper lip to the selfie

Britain in 1952 was a land of hierarchy and whiteness, of remote fathers and stigmatised working mothers. Under the Queen, family ties loosened, we became multicultural and consumerism exploded



The Britain that Princess Elizabeth inherited in February 1952 now seems utterly remote. Lyons Corner Houses, trolley buses, steam trains, Austin Sevens, Ford Eights, Triumph motorcycles with sidecars, Woodbine cigarettes, Esd, spotted dick, heavy coins, heavy suitcases, no news on the front page of The Times, sugar rationed, butter rationed, meat rationed.

The physical feel was still gloomy and often smog-ridden, testament to a deep emotional attachment to coal fires, and the great cities remained scarred by extensive slum housing as well as bomb sites. Yet nearly seven years after victory in a second world war in barely a quarter of a century, the dominant national mood was largely complacent. “Britain was still best,” the novelist Doris Lessing recalled about the prevailing assumption she had found on her arrival in 1949 from Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe). “That was so deeply part of how citizens thought, it was taken for granted. Education, food, health, anything at all – best. The British Empire, then on its last legs – the best.”

It was a world of certainties: of sporting rites (the Grand National, the FA Cup final, the Derby) central to the national conversation; of strong regional loyalties, despite the 1707 Act of Union being in full, non-devolved force; of limited geographical mobility (with holidays seldom taken abroad); of clear, undisputed social and cultural hierarchies; of uncritical faith in institutions and their leaders; of ubiquitous whiteness; of taken-for-granted heterosexuality; of jobs for life; above all,

of the family, where divorce was almost unthinkable, where the father was frequently a remote figure, where children were free to roam outside and where the working mother was not only in the minority but often stigmatised. No radio programme was more unerringly of its time than the Light Programme’s *Two-Way Family Favourites*. Presented by Jean Metcalfe, and linking up British servicemen abroad with their loved ones at home, it was broadcast at noon every Sunday – just as the week’s great family meal, usually roast and two veg, was being prepared.

Over the next seven decades, almost everything changed, starting with the very shape of the British economy.

In the 1950s we were still a great industrial power, but from the 1960s the inexorable process began of deindustrialisation, rapidly accelerating from the 1980s. There were many emblematic moments – among them the 1979 closure of Liverpool’s Meccano factory, home of Dinky Toys – as not only a way of life disappeared, but also a tangible physical environment. The shipyards of Newcastle and Glasgow, the potteries of Arnold Bennett’s Five Towns, the coalfields of Durham and south Wales, the textile mills of Lancashire and the West Riding, the steel plants of Sheffield, of Motherwell, of Corby – almost all were consigned to the history books. Politicians talked hopefully of “the march of the makers” and a “rebalancing” of the economy, but by 2019 manufacturing made up just one tenth of the UK economy, compared with almost one third in Germany.

Instead, growth came from the services sector, almost wholly dominant by the early 21st century. By 2017 the creative industries – such as fashion, advertising, film, television, computer games, music and publishing – were growing at twice the rate of the economy. But the biggest earner was financial services, centred on London, where the Square Mile and Canary Wharf capitalised on the

legacy of the “Big Bang” in 1986, through which the Thatcher government had opened up a reluctant, conservative City to foreign money and competition.

By the new millennium, London was returning to something akin to what it had been before the 1914-18 war: namely, home to the world’s greatest international financial centre. And, perhaps surprisingly, not even the profound banking crisis of 2007-8, which caused a deep recession, fundamentally changed that. Many naturally criticised the economy’s overdependence on financial services, but the nation’s economists were unable to suggest a plausible alternative model.

Across the world of work as a whole, there were two huge transformations in addition to the universal presence of the computer and smartphone with their ceaseless email traffic. One was the radically changing composition of the workforce: increasingly feminised, increasingly part-time, increasingly self-employed. The other concerned the twin decline of organised labour and job security.

Trade union membership peaked in 1979 at more than 13 million, before its collapse in the 1980s as a result of mass unemployment, hostile legislation and the dramatic defeat of the miners’ strike. Membership subsequently stabilised at six to seven million, but by 2018 fewer than 14 per cent of employees in the private sector were union members – and

“Cities remained scarred by slums and bomb sites, yet seven years after the war the national mood was complacent

memories of seemingly omnipotent union barons (Frank Cousins, Jack Jones, Moss Evans et al) were receding ever further. The decline of organised labour meant that Britain became one of the world’s most flexible labour markets, symbolised in many eyes by the zero-hours contract, the basis of the “gig” economy, affecting hundreds of thousands of workers. Covid, and the rise of the working from home culture, has changed the rules of the game once more. The only certainty left, in short, is uncertainty.

A more profound shift also took place. In about 2000 I asked the distinguished financial journalist Christopher Fildes whether, in the 1970s, he had ever envisaged the privatisation of much of the British economy. “No,” he replied about the old nationalised industries. “They were like the Berlin Wall – there for ever.”

But of course that did happen, during the 1980s and beyond, and in effect it spearheaded the marketisation of not only the economy but of society as a whole. Henceforth there would be no more free lunches; paternalism became a dirty word; mass unemployment was no longer politically explosive, so long as the electorate contained appreciably more winners than losers; areas of national life such as the NHS and higher education found themselves exposed to previously unthinkable budgetary disciplines and monetised criteria; everything was seemingly up for sale; and the British at last

banished, for good or ill, their hypocritical, puritanical guilt about money.

Money was, of course, inextricably linked with the byzantine labyrinth that was the British class system – a system alive and well during the early part of Elizabeth’s reign. A few snapshots from the early 1960s are telling. Rupert Christiansen, growing up in a south London outer suburb, was struck by how there were in effect two Petts Woods – one genteel and impeccably middle class, the other (on the other side of the railway tracks) known as “the tuppenny side” and “considered a region where people were ‘common’”; near the Manchester Ship Canal, the future historian Frank Mort (son of an accountant) was told by his parents to stop playing in the streets with children whose fathers (“big men in vests and braces”) worked on the tugs; and in the case of W Stephen Gilbert’s middle-class family, ITV was given house room only after he had complained that without it he was unable to take part in school-break analysis of *77 Sunset Strip*. A middle-aged male nurse living in a council house told two sociologists investigating class in south Wales: “Swansea has the usual three classes – working, middle and kidding themselves.”

Things undeniably loosened up over the ensuing decades. Wilson, Heath, Callaghan, Thatcher and Major were five successive state-educated prime ministers; the continuation of this run was periodically interrupted by Blair, Cameron and Johnson. That the new prime minister, Liz Truss, once of Roundhay comprehensive in Leeds (and a former republican), remains in the minority in a cabinet dominated by privately educated ministers tells its own story. The shift from a manufacturing to a services economy rapidly diminished and then wiped out the numerical dominance of the manual working class. Meanwhile, the rapid expansion of higher education transformed social expectations; Marks & Spencer led a revolution in sartorial classlessness; and from the satire movement of the 1960s onwards, trust in traditional authority figures – whether politicians or bank managers or teachers – was steadily eroded, as society became ever less deferential.

Instead it was increasingly questions of gender and ethnicity that were at the centre of public discourse, and by the turn of the century one political elder, Denis Healey, even claimed that “class” had become a meaningless concept. The

Continued on page 14 →





# Our culture may be shallower but our feelings are deeper

→Continued from page 13

post-1979 reversal of the long postwar trend towards greater equality was not an accident, and a fascinating moment occurred during the 2001 election campaign. Was it any longer Labour's aim, Jeremy Paxman asked Tony Blair, to achieve greater equality? No, answered Blair unambiguously in the face of persistent questioning: the aim was to improve the standard of living across society as a whole – not to make David Beckham poorer. Or, as the maxim went, a rising tide floats all boats. This was trickle-down economics.

A decade later, with on the one hand proliferating food banks, on the other hand the richest 1 per cent of the population taking 15 per cent of total income (against 6 per cent in 1979), it was unclear whether the Thatcher-Blair free-market orthodoxy, for so long apparently unassailable, would continue to hold sway. And in 2015 the surprise elevation of Jeremy Corbyn to the Labour Party leadership meant that the question of equality (or “social justice” in Labour parlance) was finally back on the political table. Corbyn was vanquished in 2019 but the present cost of living crisis has forced some of his agenda back into the debate.

The other inequality was that of opportunity. When Michael Young brought a new word into general usage in 1958 with his book *The Rise of the Meritocracy* – “merit” in his formulation equalling “intelligence + effort” – the widespread assumption was that the old order of nepotism and inherited privilege (so prevalent, for example, in the City of London) was now slowly if surely giving way to a more deserving order. Anthony Sampson's path-breaking

*Anatomy of Britain* (1962) was imbued with that assumption, while there soon followed the run of state-educated prime ministers.

The novel that most perfectly caught the mood of ever-greater, ever-upward social mobility was Malcolm Bradbury's *The History Man* (1975), set in a new university. Yet at some point towards the end of the century, social mobility stalled – and then in the new century continued to stall and arguably even went backwards, a decline most vividly exemplified by the Old Etonian occupation from 2013 of No 10, City Hall and Lambeth Palace, followed in 2019 by the coming of Boris Johnson as the second Old Etonian leader in barely three years. Was it all Anthony Crosland's fault for having set in train in the 1960s the abolition of the grammar schools, those unique if flawed postwar ladders of opportunity? Or was the problem the continuing existence of a flourishing, highly resourced private education sector? Today all politicians are signed up to the holy grail of social mobility, but even after the Labour Party's commitment in 2019 to integrating private schools into the state sector, the serious debate about how to achieve it has only just begun. Today's newly-appointed cabinet contains 22 alumni of private schools and nine from the state sector.

Inequalities of outcome and opportunity – whether between the classes or between the generations – were also played out in housing. In the early 1950s the average income of a council house tenant was roughly comparable to the national average, with poverty instead being located in the still extensive run-down, and often squalid, privately

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Things that were rare or non-existent in 1952 included supermarkets, duvets and frozen food

rented sector. Over the next two decades a mixture of legislation and slum clearance hugely reduced that sector, while local authorities pushed on with ambitious programmes of new social housing – all too often in the form of isolated and brutalising high-rise estates.

Then from the 1980s came the great about-turn: Margaret Thatcher's hugely popular right-to-buy policy sharply reducing the public housing sector; new building in that sector almost grinding to a halt; and the private owner-occupier sector enjoying spectacular booms, with the odd spectacular bust. By the new century, few things mattered more, especially to young adults, than house prices, mortgage rates and – in the burgeoning buy-to-let market – the often extortionate monthly rents. Inevitably, resentment grew about the older “baby boomer” generation who had seemingly had it so easy.

Housing was of course only one part of the built environment, an environment that changed drastically. In 1958 a BBC television programme featured the writer JB Priestley going back to his native Bradford, and in black and white (colour TV was barely yet a gleam in the eye) that Yorkshire city still looked essentially Victorian, full of dark, dignified civic and commercial buildings. The programme ended with Priestley remarking that although Bradford was all very well, what it now needed was to get up to date; and if he had returned ten years later, he would have found a ravaged city that had tried to do just that.

All across Britain in the 1960s, other cities and towns also succumbed to the modernity zeitgeist, exemplified by Newcastle's attempt under the idealistic



Elizabeth makes her first Christmas broadcast as Queen in 1952. Her first prime minister was Winston Churchill. At the start of her reign mothers were often frowned upon and women were widely depicted in magazines as uncomplaining homemakers. A decade later their daughters would be screaming outside the gates of Buckingham Palace, hoping to catch a glimpse of the Beatles



The Queen after her first televised Christmas Day broadcast in 1957. Twelve years later rapid technological advances would put Buzz Aldrin on the moon. Britain might not have been able to match that achievement but we were over the moon when England captain Bobby Moore lifted the World Cup at Wembley in 1966. Culturally, we were world-beaters too with the Beatles dominating the Sixties and being made MBEs in 1965



In 1971 the Queen's Christmas broadcast included footage of her with Princes Andrew and Edward. The 1970s and 1980s brought sweeping social changes. Many of us were living in high-rise blocks and though we could celebrate the Silver Jubilee, the land of certainty and the Sunday roast was giving way to the Sex Pistols and industrial unrest, including a call for a general strike in 1984. The year before, the first mobile phones appeared





but corrupt T Dan Smith to become the Venice of the north – except that instead of canals it would have ring roads. Altogether the destruction was vast (the fatal lure of “comprehensive redevelopment”), arrogant (the local populace seldom consulted) and largely gratuitous. A pause followed, but it was not long before, in the name of “urban renewal”, the bulldozers and cranes were back, with the lessons of the gimcrack Sixties – in this respect at least – not always remembered.

The daily round framed by the built environment also became largely unrecognisable. To list almost at random just some of the things that were either non-existent or rare in 1952: duvets, supermarkets, shopping centres, motorways, tea bags, flavoured crisps, frozen food, sliced bread, lager, CDs, DVDs, computers, apps, social media, trainers, leisurewear, sponsors on football shirts, Indian restaurants, Chinese restaurants, Korean restaurants, McDonald’s, Starbucks, launderettes, automatic washing machines, dishwashers, car radios, seatbelts, sat navs, iPhones ...

One way and another, life was undoubtedly simpler during the first half of Elizabeth’s reign. Communication was almost invariably by letter or postcard; telephone usage was far from free and easy (often just the one landline telephone in the hall); at most there was only a handful of TV channels available to watch; and generally there was – or it seemed so anyway – more time to think. Soup meant Heinz, coffee meant coffee, Sundays meant boredom, cricketers were whites, football matches started at three o’clock on Saturday afternoons: in short, one knew where one was.

That – on the face of it anyway – included the bedroom. Few subjects were more taboo than homosexuality, even after the Wolfenden committee in 1957 recommended the decriminalisation of homosexual relations between consenting adults, a step too far for public opinion in some parts of the country.

“What I particularly admired about the debate,” a society lady said to her friend in an Osbert Lancaster cartoon in 1960 after MPs had decisively rejected that recommendation, “was the way that every speaker managed to give the impression that he personally had never met a homosexual in his life.” Among MPs on the losing side were Enoch Powell and Margaret Thatcher, presumably voting on the grounds of individual liberty.

Decriminalisation did eventually come – part of that notable trio of liberal reforms of the mid to late 1960s that also included the end of capital punishment and the legalisation of abortion – but it would be a long and thorny path to the arrival by 2020 of same-sex marriage in all four corners of the United Kingdom (if not yet wholly the Church of England). More generally, family life underwent a profound transformation. The husband-wife relationship changed from living in mainly separate spheres (with the husband holding the purse strings) to something more egalitarian; divorce became common, especially after the “no fault” legislation of 1969; and the proportion of births outside wedlock climbed from 5 per cent in the 1950s to nearly 50 per cent in the new century.

Impossible to chart statistically, but

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**Women’s horizons expanded significantly. The wife as dedicated homemaker almost entirely disappeared**

arguably the most important part of the transformation, was the changed relationship between parents and children. All the anecdotal evidence suggests that in the old days there was little open discussion, let alone consultation, between the generations. (That certainly applied to me, sent in 1964 to a rugby-playing school when all I wanted to do was play football.) By contrast, the relationship now seems freer and easier, with few subjects off limits – appreciably different from the furtive, guilt-ridden past.

For women, horizons expanded widely. As late as the 1970s, only a minority of children had a mother who went out to work, whereas by 2019 barely a quarter of women aged 16-64 were not employed; and over the years the consequences in terms of the welfare of children were keenly debated.

In part the pull to work was economic, with the average house price in the UK rising from £11,000 in the mid-1970s to £283,000 by this year, as estate agents and mortgage lenders exploited the potential of two-income households, which in turn made double incomes a necessity. In cultural terms, the normative assumptions of the 1950s – as sedulously propagated by popular magazines such as Woman and Woman’s Own – about the wife as dedicated, uncomplaining homemaker almost entirely disappeared. But, more broadly, was it still “a man’s world” (as, in 1960, two-thirds of wives had insisted to an opinion poll that it was)?

Overall, the answer has to be “yes”. It was not until 2014 that all FTSE 100 companies had at least one (often token) woman on their board; women

remained seriously under-represented in parliament (by March this year 35 per cent of MPs were women); senior positions across society at large continued to be occupied predominantly by men; and across the workforce as a whole, despite legislation, the reality was that pay differentials remained considerable.

This imbalance came at a heavy cost. Would we have had the appalling financial crisis if women had been in charge of the testosterone-fuelled banks? It became a cliché, but a true cliché, that we would probably have avoided it.

If the changing role of women represented an incomplete revolution, so also did the shift from a monocultural to a multicultural society. Immigration on a huge scale began in the mid-1950s: first from the West Indies and then from India and Pakistan, with job vacancies still plentiful in a full-employment economy. The attitude of the white British to the phenomenon was seldom outright enthusiastic and seldom outright hostile, but generally on the grudging side, with mistrust of the strangers in their midst tending to predominate. Legislation in 1962 acted as a partial brake on numbers, but the temperature continued to rise, culminating in Enoch Powell’s infamous “Rivers of Blood” speech in 1968. London dockers marched in his support, but the political mainstream distanced itself; and on the whole, over the next four decades, the process of accommodation, if not always integration, was managed surprisingly successfully, with the National Front and other racist parties unable to make a big impact and London and other cities emerging as multi-ethnic centres.

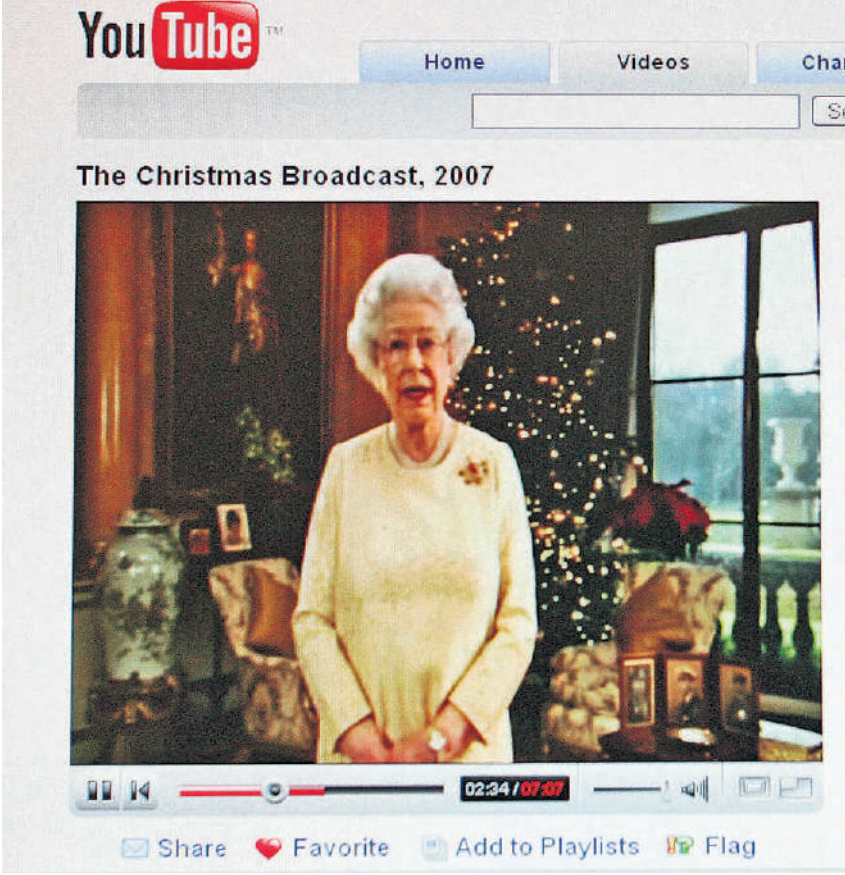
From the mid-2000s, the sheer

number of immigrants from the “new” Europe (Poland and elsewhere) imposed significant strains. This contributed to the Leave campaign’s victory in the June 2016 referendum on Europe, as did a more general sense, especially in post-industrial areas outside London, of being “left behind” economically and ignored for too long by Westminster. Yet even among the Brexit-supporting white working class – at the sharp end, in a rapidly globalising world, of pressures on wages, housing, schools and welfare provision – the attitude to immigrants has by and large, with a few horrible exceptions, had a degree of tolerance that continues to make the worst scapegoating horrors an unlikely future scenario, notwithstanding the ignoble efforts of some populist politicians.

That broad if not invariable tolerance had historically, over the centuries, been Britain’s greatest virtue; while looking at the more recent curve of time since 1952, it is fair to say that increasingly added to tolerance was a much-enhanced emotional intelligence. There were minuses. In too many ways, including the remorseless rise of the celebrity, our culture by the closing years of the reign had become shallower and more cynical, knowing (in the old Oscar Wilde line) the price of everything and the value of nothing. There has been a loss of solidity, a loss of dignity, even a loss of purpose.

Yet where it really matters – in private life, in relations with others – we have become more rounded and more functional. More than a century ago, in *Howards End*, the novelist EM Forster urged us to “only connect”; we are at last perhaps starting to do so ■

POPPER/PHOTO; DAILY MAIL; JOAN WILLIAMS/REX/SHUTTERSTOCK; HULTON ARCHIVE/GETTY IMAGES; BEN GURR FOR THE TIMES; REUTERS; PA



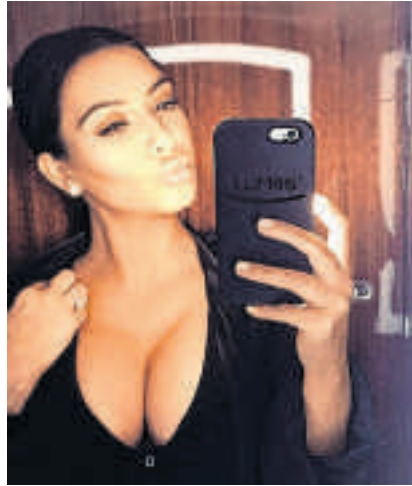
The Queen delivers her 1989 Christmas broadcast. It was the decade of the Falklands War, the Big Bang in the City and the emergence of the “loadsamoney” culture, sent up by Harry Enfield. Our tastes were

transformed too, with curries, Chinese meals and the McDonald’s burger becoming staples for many, though perhaps not Kate Moss, who was discovered in 1988 and swiftly rose to supermodel status



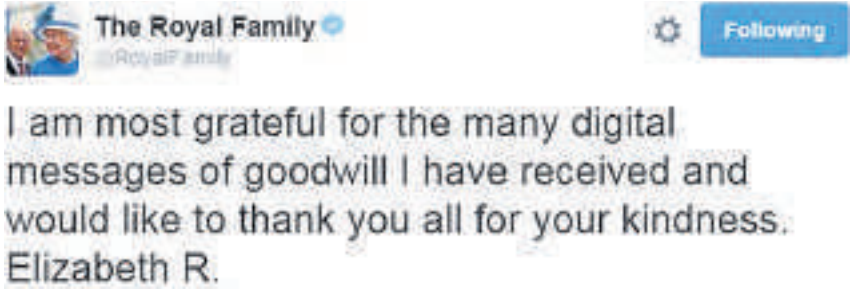
The march of technology in the 21st century was marked by the Queen’s first Christmas message on YouTube, in 2007, and the rise of robots. British rock had ruled the 1990s, when Oasis were dominant; two decades later

Tinie Tempah was rivalling US hip-hop. Wet summers made Glastonbury mudlarks a familiar sight, like stylised Nike trainers. A darker import was jihadism, which inspired the London bombings on July 7, 2005



In 2016 the Queen used Twitter to respond to messages on her 90th birthday, but, unlike Kim Kardashian, avoided overuse of social media. Her tweeting was in contrast to the pomp of her Golden Jubilee. Elizabeth’s last

decade was a time of cultural and sporting excellence from Adele and Jessica Ennis-Hill of Team GB. She gave support to the nation during Covid-19. Liz Truss, who became Tory leader just days before her death, was her last PM





# A whisper, a wink, and a rift reaches crisis point



The Queen and Margaret Thatcher were separated by just six months in age but their political views diverged widely. Elizabeth's loyalty to the Commonwealth led to a difference in opinion when it put pressure on Britain to impose sanctions on South Africa

A Sunday Times scoop revealed divisions between Britain's two most powerful women. But were palace provocateurs driving the wedge in deeper, asks *Tony Barrell*

It is often argued that if women ran the world, it would be an infinitely more peaceful place: there would be no serious conflict; just a lot of empathy, reasoned debate and smiling. Yet during the 11-year period when Britain had a female monarch and a female prime minister, the differences between them appeared to bring the nation to the brink of a constitutional crisis.

It was July 1986. The Queen had recently turned 60, and the prime minister, Margaret Thatcher, six months older than the monarch she served, was less than a year away from the end of her second term. Investigating rumours that all was not well between Her Majesty and the Iron Lady, The Sunday Times uncovered one of the most astonishing political stories of modern times.

The rumblings centred on the Commonwealth, to which the Queen was apparently devoted but of which Thatcher was much less enamoured. Britain was under increasing pressure from Commonwealth nations to impose sanctions on South Africa. Writing about the differences between the two powerful sexagenarians over sanctions, a Sunday Times reporter, Simon Freeman, obtained some extraordinary statements from sources close to the Queen.

It was not just the South Africa business she was unhappy about, apparently: she was displeased by Thatcherism in general. This benevolent monarch seemed to perceive the government as arrogant and uncaring. The newspaper's political editor, Michael Jones, read Freeman's copy and alerted the editor, Andrew Neil. It was dynamite. The main source, said Freeman, was the Queen's press secretary, the Scotsman Michael Sinclair MacAuslan Shea. That was more dynamite. The edition of July 20, 1986, carried the banner headline "Queen dismayed by 'uncaring' Thatcher", while Jones's lead story – flagging up Freeman's Focus story inside – said the Queen considered her PM's approach to be often "confrontational and socially divisive".

Freeman had done the right thing, checking Michael Shea's quotes with

him and making clear they were going to be published (without the press secretary being named). Jones had called Thatcher's press officer, Bernard Ingham, who had contacted Shea and received confirmation he had talked to The Sunday Times.

"There was a feeling around Buckingham Palace," Ingham later recalled, "that people there were amused by Mrs Thatcher – people who derived amusement from Mrs Thatcher's passion, people who looked down their noses at her, as a kind of Johnny-come-lately."

Just as Shea was being mentioned in the press as the likely mole, Palace officials denied there was any truth to the story. On Monday July 28 a furious letter to The Times from Sir William Heseltine, the Queen's private secretary, concluded with the gritted-teeth assertion: "The Queen enjoys a relationship of the closest confidentiality with Mrs Thatcher, and reports purporting to be the Queen's opinion of government policies are entirely without foundation."

A source close to Thatcher said she was "knocked sideways" by the affair, distressed that the public now believed she had upset the Queen, whom she respected enormously and in whose presence the prime minister is said to

## People at the Palace looked down on Thatcher

have performed elaborate curtsies. "There was a lot of dismay around, a lot of shaking of heads over the Sunday Times material," said Ingham. "It was a cross we had to bear."

Michael Shea left his job as the Queen's press secretary the year after the political storm he had stirred up, though he denied his resignation had anything to do with it. He went back to Scotland, became a PR officer for the building materials company Hanson and died in 2009, aged 71, after suffering dementia. The Queen let it be known she was "saddened" by his death.

Andrew Neil later said The Sunday Times had uncovered "a conspiracy by a faction within Buckingham Palace to distance the royal family from the policies of Margaret Thatcher and undermine her government".

Years later, Thatcher was still tender about it. She let slip that she believed the Queen, had she been a commoner, would have been the sort of person to vote for the SDP. Whether that was true, and whether, after the demise of that party, Her Majesty's political views aligned with those of the Lib Dems, we are unlikely to know. But she had been known to wear orange ■



FROM THE BULLDOG TO BOJO AND FINALLY LIZ: HER 15 PRIME MINISTERS		<b>Winston Churchill, 1951-5</b> The Queen was at first in awe of the British bulldog, who was already PM when she came to the throne. But they shared a love of horses, and she said her meetings with him were “always such fun”.
		<b>Anthony Eden, 1955-7</b> The Queen and Eden discussed Margaret’s doomed plan to marry Peter Townsend. Elizabeth was sent secret government papers for the first time during Suez, the crisis that ended Eden’s tenure.
		<b>Harold Macmillan, 1957-63</b> Supermac supplied political gossip in his audiences with the Queen, whom he called “a great support, because she is the one person you can talk to”. She consulted him for many years after his resignation.
		<b>Alec Douglas-Home, 1963-4</b> The aristocrat left the Lords after being invited to become PM by the Queen when Macmillan resigned. A family friend of the Windsors, he helped her name several horses.
		<b>Harold Wilson, 1964-70; 1974-6</b> Her Majesty got on famously with her first Labour premier. The Yorkshireman was allowed to smoke his pipe in their meetings, and helped with the washing-up after meals at Balmoral.
		<b>Edward Heath, 1970-4</b> The yachtsman and musician had differences with the Queen: he favoured European integration, she the Commonwealth. But he called her “one of the best-informed people in the world”.
		<b>James Callaghan, 1976-9</b> Sunny Jim had a relaxed relationship with the monarch, though he noted that she provided “friendliness but not friendship”. His downfall was the strike-bound Winter of Discontent.
		<b>Margaret Thatcher, 1979-90</b> The Iron Lady’s overbearing manner irked the Queen, while Thatcher viewed the annual visit to Balmoral as an interruption to her work, and had to be lent wellies for those bracing hillside walks.
	<b>John Major, 1990-7</b> The first prime minister to be younger than the Queen. They discussed the Gulf War and the Maastricht treaty, and Major consoled the monarch during her annus horribilis of 1992.	
	<b>Tony Blair, 1997-2007</b> Younger than Prince Charles and Princess Anne, the longest-serving Labour PM found the culture at Balmoral “totally alien”, and troubled the Queen by anointing Diana “the People’s Princess”.	
	<b>Gordon Brown, 2007-10</b> Brown had a cordial relationship with the Queen, with whom he discussed the banking crisis and the scandal of MPs’ expenses. She was known to perform entertaining impressions of his Scottish accent.	
	<b>David Cameron, 2010-16</b> As a direct descendant of William IV, the Queen’s youngest PM was also her fifth cousin, twice removed. In 2011 she allowed him to change the rules of succession to give female royals equality with males.	
	<b>Theresa May, 2016-19</b> The Queen’s 13th PM won a Tory leadership contest after Brexiteers triumphed in Cameron’s EU referendum. The vicar’s daughter was previously one of Britain’s longest-serving home secretaries.	
	<b>Boris Johnson, 2019-22</b> Johnson got off to a bad start by revealing what the Queen had said to him at their first meeting. He later apologised to her for trying to prorogue parliament and for a No 10 lockdown party before Prince Philip’s funeral.	
	<b>Liz Truss, 2022-</b> The prime minister, chosen as party leader on Monday, flew to Balmoral the following day. She was photographed shaking the Queen’s hand in the private drawing room at the castle.	



ALAMY; BRIDGEMAN IMAGES; BETTMANN ARCHIVE



Clockwise from above: Clive Upton's depiction of the Queen at Trooping the Colour, Winterhalter's portrait of Victoria and Isaac Oliver's picture of Elizabeth I. All three queens were judged not just as monarchs but as women too

# A lesson from her forebears: the power of image

Unlike her predecessors Elizabeth I and Victoria, the Queen was discreet and self-denying, but she understood as well as they did how to project the monarchy, writes *Daisy Goodwin*

While the nation mourns its longest-reigning monarch, there is a cadre of historians whose grief will be tempered by excitement about what may be revealed by her diaries. There is no doubt that the Queen kept a diary throughout her reign – her predecessors George VI and George V both did so, and Victoria, her role model, is calculated to have written 62 million words before her death at the age of 81. But will Elizabeth's diary follow in the stolid tradition of her grandfather George V – meticulous descriptions of the weather, interspersed with the odd stamp – or will it be a vivid stream of consciousness like that of her great-great-grandmother? After Victoria died, her youngest daughter, Beatrice, copied out most of the diaries, redacting anything she thought controversial – such as references to her Scottish servant John Brown, or disparaging remarks about her nine children. Historians will be hoping Prince Edward is not at this very moment inking out his mother's reflections on Diana, Princess of Wales or Brexit.

But even if Elizabeth's diaries come to us unexpurgated, it is unlikely that they will be as opinionated as Victoria's or as intellectually accomplished as the writings of Elizabeth I, who was educated like a Renaissance prince to read Greek and Latin and to speak French and Italian. The Queen spoke fluent French, but as one of her favourite authors is said to have been Dick Francis, it seems unlikely she has left behind a clutch of translations of the classics as her Tudor forebear did. And in contrast to Victoria, who wrote about her wedding night with her "dearest, dearest, dear Albert", it would be surprising if Elizabeth had described her husband in such gushing terms – this queen was always the model of discretion. Unlike Elizabeth I, who would alternately rage at and charm her parliaments, or Victoria, who made no secret of her intense dislike of figures such as Gladstone, Elizabeth II always kept a careful check on her emotions. The scandal surrounding her uncle Edward VIII's abdication meant that the young Elizabeth was always keenly aware that a successful monarch must put country

first and personal satisfaction second. Elizabeth's poker face was one of her greatest achievements. She took to heart the advice of the constitutional historian Walter Bagehot, who wrote in 1867 of the monarchy: "Its mystery is its life. We must not let in daylight upon magic." In an age when everyone, including her own grandchildren, went public about their "feelings", Elizabeth remained the exception. Even Victoria wrote and illustrated a bestselling book about her home life, *Leaves from the Journal of Our Life in the Highlands*, but Elizabeth's most vivid expressions of emotion were at Epsom, when she watched her horses fail to win the Derby. One lesson that Elizabeth did learn from her two great predecessors was the power of image. Elizabeth I created the glorious jewelled carapace of the "Virgin Queen", a replacement for the images of the Virgin Mary that she outlawed from Protestant churches; Victoria (the first monarch to be photographed) showed herself to her people wearing a bonnet and a shawl, surrounded by her children, using the domesticity of that image to link herself to the

newly prosperous middle classes, just as Elizabeth II became the first queen to appear on television, watching her husband grilling sausages on a barbecue, like an ordinary mother of four. A small woman – 5ft 3in – she learnt early on the trick of colour-blocking, wearing the same bright shade from shoes to hat, so as to stand out from the crowd. One of Elizabeth's few public remarks about her job was: "I have to be seen to be believed", and she put this into practice, making more public appearances than any other British monarch. Unlike Victoria, who was

“Elizabeth's most vivid expressions of emotion were at Epsom for the Derby

never troubled with self-doubt, Elizabeth was an anxious monarch, always aware that she reigned by popular consent. When Albert died in 1861, Victoria withdrew from public life for almost a decade; Elizabeth II was forced into appearing on television five days after the death of her daughter-in-law Diana in 1997. Inevitably, as with Elizabeth I and Victoria, she will be judged not just as a queen but as a woman. Victoria may have been successful in rebranding the monarchy from entitled aristocrats to respectable bourgeoisie, but her posthumous reputation is dominated by her shortcomings as a mother and prurient speculation about her relationship with John Brown. Kings, even the near-psychopathic Henry VIII, are rarely judged on their personal life, but it is safe to assume that Elizabeth II will also be branded a bad mother who did not give her children enough attention while holding down the job of head of state. Elizabeth I gets a better press because she made the strategic decision not to marry, but Victoria and Elizabeth II are not lauded for taking on the almost impossible task of raising a

family in the public eye; instead they are criticised for their children's failures. The fact that three of her children's marriages ended in divorce was always linked to Elizabeth II's failure to spend enough time with them, but, paradoxically, the shortcomings of Prince Andrew were blamed on the fact that he was his mother's favourite child. Both Victoria and Elizabeth II were reluctant to relinquish their responsibilities to their son and heir. Victoria made no secret of her disapproval of the future Edward VII; Elizabeth II, typically, was more circumspect but relinquished the bulk of her royal duties to Charles only when forced to do so by the coronavirus. And even when "shielding" at home in Windsor Castle, she made an address to the nation, promising her subjects: "One day we will meet again." It was a pitch-perfect speech: its stoic tone soothed the nation at a time of national chaos. Like her queenly predecessors, Elizabeth II understood the power of the matriarchy ■

*Daisy Goodwin created the television drama series Victoria*



TIMES PHOTOGRAPHER RICHARD POHLE



Thousands of people fill the Mall, cheering and waving flags, as they celebrate the Platinum Jubilee in June

“She watched the horse racing on TV in comfy clothes

# Pop, pageantry and Paddington toast 70 years on the throne

Her declining health stopped the Queen attending all four days of celebrations, but there was still a party to beat all parties at the palace, writes *Glen Keogh*



The Queen points up at the flypast from the balcony of Buckingham Palace

For at least 18 million people who came together over the bank holiday in June, the jubilee was a chance to express gratitude to the Queen for seven decades of selfless public service.

Yet to many the celebrations still felt deeply personal. “The mother” of the nation, “who continues to make history”, is how Prince Charles hailed his own mother during a heartfelt address to mark the occasion; recognising the Queen’s role as a figure who has loomed large in the lives of almost every Briton.

At 96 – and the first British monarch to reach the milestone of 70 years on the throne – the Queen could not take part in every event because of her frailty.

But through countless street parties, picnics, lunches and barbecues, a star-studded concert at Buckingham Palace attended by tens of thousands of key workers and ballot-winners and a pageant along the Mall, the country showed its appreciation.

Even though she was not there, the Queen stole the show, reminding millions why her appeal across generations and continents has endured.

As the Platinum Party at the Palace concert was about to begin, the estimated 12 million people watching on television saw their screens cut to the Queen, resplendent in pearls in the grand surroundings of a Windsor Castle drawing room, sitting opposite another national treasure: Paddington Bear.

The Queen watched as Paddington guzzled from a teapot, before he offered her a marmalade sandwich from underneath his hat.

It turned out he was not the only one to keep a snack for emergencies. To the surprise of the bear from darkest Peru,

the Queen said she kept her own marmalade sandwiches in her handbag “for later”.

Echoing the sentiments of the thousands watching on screens from Buckingham Palace in Union Jack hats, Paddington, voiced by the actor Ben Whishaw, replied: “Happy jubilee, ma’am. And thank you, for everything.”

The two-and-a-half-minute sketch was filmed in March and such was the secrecy that not even Princes Charles and William were believed to have known about it.

“Her Majesty is well known for her sense of humour, so it should be no surprise that she decided to take part in tonight’s sketch,” a Buckingham Palace spokesman said at the time, adding: “The opportunity to invite a famous bear to tea was just too much fun to miss.”

The warm reception mirrored the response to the Queen’s sketch with the

James Bond actor Daniel Craig for the London 2012 Olympics opening ceremony, in which she “parachuted” into the stadium alongside 007.

In June millions across the country hung out the bunting, prepared the jam and scones and sliced the party sandwiches for jubilee celebrations in their own towns and villages. Unusually, the weather relented and it remained largely dry and warm.

In Morecambe one street party vying for the record of the country’s largest had 5,000 people sitting at 500 tables spanning one and a half miles.

The official four-day celebrations began on Thursday June 2 with Trooping the Colour. For the first time the Queen handed over her duties to Prince Charles, who was joined by Prince William and the Princess Royal.

In what proved to be her final appearance on the Buckingham Palace balcony,

the Queen took the salute, alongside the Duke of Kent, in full military regalia.

That night, at Windsor Castle, the Queen launched the jubilee lighting of the beacons, in which more than 3,500 torches were set alight in her honour around the Commonwealth.

On the Saturday the Queen did not attend, as she usually did, the Epsom Derby, instead watching the horse racing on television in her “comfy clothes”, according to her granddaughter Zara Tindall, who noted that “she has a few runners today dotted around the country, so she knows exactly what’s going on”.

That evening the party at the palace hosted performances from Sir Elton John, Sir Rod Stewart, Duran Duran, Queen and others.

Speeches were woven between acts to toast Her Majesty, including a nod from Sir David Attenborough, 96, who praised the royal family’s commitment to conservation.

But it was left to Charles to attempt to sum up the nation’s thanks for his mother’s lifelong commitment to public duty.

As images of her place in global history flashed outside Buckingham Palace – presenting Bobby Moore with the World Cup in 1966; a carriage ride with Nelson Mandela down the Mall; a historic handshake with the former IRA commander Martin McGuinness in 2012 – Prince Charles spoke of the sovereign “pledging to serve your whole life ... [and] you continue to deliver.”

He added: “These pictures on your house are the story of your life – and ours. So, Your Majesty, that is why we all say, ‘Thank you’.” ■



Two people find a good vantage point on top of the Tube station entrance in Trafalgar Square



THE QUEENS OF OUR SCREENS



The Queen was both lampooned and portrayed in fictional settings. Claire Foy, above, tried on the supreme symbol of monarchy in the Netflix series The Crown before handing over the role to Olivia Colman, below left. Helen Mirren, right, won plaudits for her stage portrayal in The Audience. From top left, the role was reprised by Kristin Scott Thomas for the TV adaptation, Rory Bremner gave us a homely Queen and Sarah Gadon played a uniformed Princess Elizabeth in A Royal Night Out.

Leslie Nielsen got rather too close in The Naked Gun, and the Queen herself featured alongside Daniel Craig in a 007 spoof for the 2012 Olympics. ITV's Spitting Image could not resist including a corgi in its

send-up, Alison Jackson included royal lookalikes in her opera La Trashiata, bottom left, at the Edinburgh Fringe in 2014 and the cartoonist Mark Boxer drew on her love of racing, below



AP; GETTY IMAGES; BRIDGEMAN IMAGES; ITV, PARAMOUNT/REX FEATURES









**LECLERC  
ON POLE  
AT ITALIAN  
GRAND PRIX  
PAGE 9**

TIMES PHOTOGRAPHER MARC ASPLAND

# Royal flush

**Ollie Robinson claims  
five as England gain the  
upper hand and cricket  
pays tribute to Queen,  
*pages 2-5***

## Chelsea target PSG sporting director to help Potter

### Duncan Castles

Chelsea are interested in hiring Luís Campos as their sporting director to work with their newly appointed head coach Graham Potter.

Campos, 58, has been the football adviser to Paris Saint-Germain since June, when the French champions hailed the Portuguese as a “world-acclaimed football expert”.

The Chelsea owners, the consortium led by Todd Boehly and Clearlake Capital, are thought to be unhappy with the performances and structure of the squad; Boehly, the interim sporting director, has already spoken with Campos.

Chelsea intend to invest aggressively in the January transfer window, having spent a club-record £261million on new players this summer.

The appointment of a sporting director formed part of the discussions with Potter on Wednesday before the English manager was hired to replace Thomas Tuchel, who had been sacked earlier that day after 20 months in charge.

Potter underlined the importance of the role after working successfully in tandem with a technical director at Brighton & Hove Albion.

Campos built his reputation at Monaco and Lille, twice building sides that denied PSG the Ligue 1 title with a fraction of the Qatari-owned club's enormous budget while generating a big profit in the transfer market.

Across three seasons at Lille, he brought in more than €350million (about £305million) in transfer fees and constructed a team that progressed from a relegation-threatened

campaign under Marcelo Bielsa to title winners in 2021 under Christophe Galtier, now the coach at PSG. At Monaco, Campos won the 2016-17 French title and reached the semi-finals of the Champions League.

Signings from which Monaco and Lille have generated large profits include Sven Botman, Fabinho, Rafael Leão, Thomas Lemar, Benjamin Mendy, Victor Osimhen, Nicolas Pépé, Bernardo Silva and Kylian Mbappé, who PSG bought for £162million in 2018.

Before his move to French football, Campos worked for José Mourinho at Real Madrid and was recommended to Manchester United and Tottenham Hotspur for sporting director roles by Mourinho.

Last year Newcastle United's interim co-chief executives Mehrdad

Ghodoussi and Amanda Staveley interviewed Campos for a position at the Saudi-owned club.

Within 100 days of taking control of Chelsea from Roman Abramovich, Boehly has overseen the dismissal or voluntary exits of every employee central to first-team recruitment and management at the club they bought in the £2.5 billion government-enforced sale of the club.

Marina Granovskaia, director and chief assistant to Abramovich, Scott McLachlan, the long-serving head of international scouts, and Petr Cech, technical and performance adviser, resigned their positions. Bruce Buck also stepped down as chairman.

**POTTER CAN DELIVER, PAGES 6-7**



## Cricket England v South Africa: Third LV= Test

# WICKETS TUMBLE BUT ENGLAND HOLD ADVANTAGE

Ollie Robinson and Ollie Pope feed off the energy of 27,500 spectators at the Kia Oval

SIMON WILDE



Cricket Correspondent

This was a day of cricket for the ages. No one present will quickly forget either the singing of *God Save the King* before the start – initially delivered by the soprano Laura Wright alone, until a full house of 27,500 stirringly joined in – or an irresistible bowling performance from England seamers doubtless inspired by the extraordinary sense of occasion.

The 760th and final England Test match of the reign of Elizabeth II had made the most emotionally powerful start in the time of King Charles III.

Ben Stokes had wanted the match to resume after Friday's respectful suspension in play, but since becoming England captain he has been clear in his intent to lead a team of entertainers who play to win. Despite the loss of two days, that remained his aim. "Anything we can do to create a result in this game, we'll do it," he said before the restart. And they were as good as his words.

Bowling out South Africa for 118 – the lowest total by a side batting first in an Oval Test since 1948 – was a stunning start. By 2.30pm the spectators were on their feet for a second standing ovation of the day to salute Ollie Robinson's fifth wicket, and by 2.50pm they were out of their seats again as Robinson, in possession of Test-best figures of five for 49, led off the team, their work in the field complete in just over three hours.

In terms of quality and wickets, Stuart Broad was not far behind with a return of four for 41 that put him level on 563 wickets with his idol Glenn McGrath in equal fifth place in Test cricket's all-time list.

Thereafter England's batsmen went about things in full "Bazball"



## ENGLAND WOMEN CRUSH INDIA IN FIRST T20

England women cruised to a nine-wicket win over India last night in the first T20 international at Chester-le-Street. England had lost to the same opponents in the Commonwealth Games semi-final last month but Sarah Glenn, Sophia Dunkley and the 18-year-old Alice Capsey helped them avenge that defeat.

Put in to bat, India looked in a decent position midway through the 12th over with the score on 83 for three. But they were restricted to 132 for seven for their completed overs, with the England bowling effort led by Glenn, the leg spinner, who took four for 23.

Opening with Danni Wyatt, Dunkley was given a huge let-off on the third ball of the innings when she was trapped leg-before by Renuka Singh Thakur only for a review to reveal the India bowler had overstepped. Dunkley was also dropped on 15.

Wyatt was dismissed for 24 in the seventh over with the score on 60 but Capsey came in and offered support to Dunkley, who brought up her 50 off 36 balls. The pair were there at the end, with Capsey on 32 off 20 balls, as England won with seven overs to spare. The second T20 match of the three-match series is at Derby on Tuesday.

**'Even Robinson confined himself to sending off the batsmen with a stare rather than choice words'**

regalia, careering along at five an over en route to a lead of 36 while shedding wickets along the way to the dangerous left-arm beanpole Marco Jansen.

Alex Lees and Zak Crawley never got started and Joe Root, having flown out of the blocks, threw away a chance to make up for three single-figure scores by slashing a catch to fourth slip. Harry Brook's first Test runs arrived with two crisp fours off Jansen before he holed out to fine leg.

Between moments of luck, Ollie Pope batted like a king in racing to a 62-ball half-century with ten fours – the only fifty of the day – but when a short and frantic stay by Stokes ended with an edged drive to slip and Pope fenced at Kagiso Rabada, the game was veering on a wildly uneven path. An England win started the day as a long shot, and ended it a strong favourite.

This was the first time a major national sporting team had been in action since the Queen's death and Stokes and his men not only entertained but carried themselves in a manner befitting the occasion. Even Robinson confined himself to sending off the batsmen with a stare rather than choice words. The decision by

the ECB executive, led by the new chairman, Richard Thompson, to go ahead with the game, which was not arrived at easily, was vindicated.

Stokes winning the toss on Thursday morning and electing to bowl looked even more useful now than it did before rain put paid to day one. The bowlers' footmarks left dark patches on the pitch, suggesting dampness beneath and conditions ideal for bowling, and so it proved. It was primarily seam movement rather than swing, but the movement was there. Stokes, as is his wont, packed the cordon and the South Africans did the same later.

When the players came down the steps before the anthems, the pin-drop silence was eerie, but it was the last time there was quiet. Applause for the anthems morphed into a roar of support for the home side as they gathered in a huddle and it was enough to add a yard of pace to anyone's bowling.

It was to the credit of Robinson, Broad and James Anderson that they fed off the emotion of the occasion without being distracted by it. The lack of swing marginalised Anderson, but as a collective they probed good lines and lengths and gave the batsmen nothing. They were adept at using different angles to unpick the three left-handers in South Africa's reconstituted top order.

Robinson sprinkled a couple of no-balls into his first over, but by passing the outside edge from round the wicket he set up Dean Elgar for the ball that nipped back and sent off stump flying. Anderson then had



TIMES PHOTOGRAPHER MARC ASPLAND

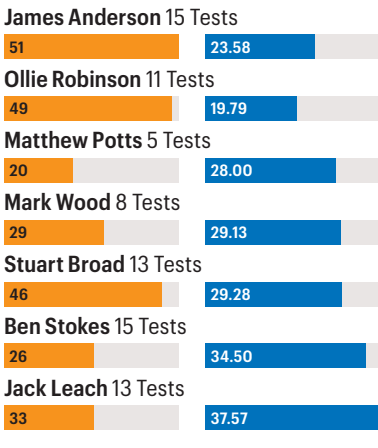


Lees is clean bowled for 13, while Stokes and Broad, below left, were among the 16 other wickets to fall on the day before bad light stopped play

### ENGLAND'S LEADING BOWLERS

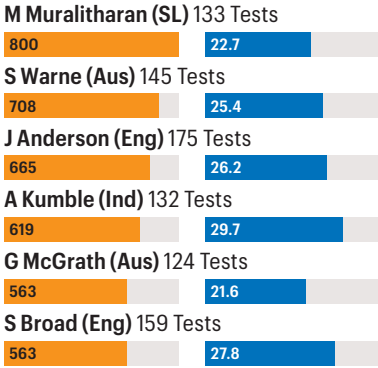
Since Robinson debut (June 2021)

◆ Wickets ◆ Average



### BROAD LEVEL WITH AUSSIE GREAT

Stuart Broad yesterday claimed his 563rd wicket to sit joint fifth with Glenn McGrath in the list of most Test dismissals



### SCOREBOARD

#### Third LV= Insurance Test match England v South Africa

**Kia Oval** (third day of five; England won toss): *England, with three first-innings wickets in hand, are 36 runs ahead of South Africa*

South Africa First Innings	
*D Elgar b Robinson	1
S J Erwee c Foakes b Anderson	0
K D Petersen b Robinson	12
R D Rickelton c Foakes b Broad	11
K Zondo c Lees b Broad	23
†K Verreynne c Foakes b Robinson	0
P W A Mulder c Foakes b Robinson	3
M Jansen c Root b Robinson	30
K A Maharaj b Broad	18
K S Rabada not out	7
A Nortje c Stokes b Broad	7
Extras (lb 2, nb 4)	6
Total (36.2 overs)	118

**Fall of wickets** 1-2, 2-7, 3-21, 4-31, 5-32, 6-36, 7-72, 8-99, 9-110.

**Bowling** Anderson 8-2-16-1; Robinson 14-3-49-5; Broad 12.2-1-41-4; Leach 2-1-10-0.

England First Innings	
A Z Lees b Jansen	13
Z Crawley lbw b Jansen	5
O J D Pope c Verreynne b Rabada	67
J E Root c Petersen b Jansen	23
H C Brook c Rabada b Jansen	12
*B A Stokes c Erwee b Nortje	6
†B T Foakes not out	11
S C J Broad c Verreynne b Rabada	6
O E Robinson not out	3
Extras (b 1, lb 1, nb 6)	8
Total (7 wkts, 33.4 overs)	154

M J Leach and J M Anderson to bat.

**Fall of wickets** 1-17, 2-43, 3-84, 4-107, 5-129, 6-133, 7-151.

**Bowling** Rabada 11.4-1-78-2; Jansen 11-2-34-4; Mulder 2-0-11-0; Nortje 9-0-29-1.

**Umpires** N N Menon (India) and R A Kettleborough.

**TV umpire** C Gaffaney (NZ). **Reserve umpire** M Saggars. **Match referee** R Madugalle (Sri).

#### Series details

**First Test** South Africa won by an innings and 12 runs (Lord's). **Second Test** England won by an innings and 85 runs (Emirates Old Trafford).

Sarel Erwee caught behind to a ball angled across him from over the wicket.

Robinson, using the highest release point among England bowlers, has a talent for creating doubt about which balls must be played and which can be left, and it proved too much for Keegan Petersen, who was bowled playing no shot. Broad took over from Anderson and accounted for another left-hander, Ryan Rickelton, drawn into driving at a full-length ball.

By the time Kyle Verreynne and Wiaan Mulder were caught behind in the space of nine balls from Robinson either side of drinks, South Africa were 36 for six and their flawed batting unit was floundering. Khaya Zondo, shaping well in his first Test innings, and Jansen fought back with a stand of 36 before Broad, noting that Zondo was batting out of his crease, dug one in short and found the splice, short third man completing the catch.

Robinson had Jansen taken at slip for his fifth wicket to put himself on a par with Fred Trueman, who took England's first five-for under Elizabeth II, and Broad mopped up the tail.

Among those watching was John Carr, whose father, Donald, captained England in the Chennai Test of 1952 that was temporarily halted by the death of George VI. Other England Tests since then to have lost a day to things other than adverse weather include Karachi 1969 (rioting students), Leeds 1975 (supporters of the jailed George Davis digging up the pitch) and Faisalabad 1987 (the stand-off between Mike Gatting and Shakoor Rana).

# Simon Hughes

## Robinson's high release combines with Oval pitch to make light work of rookie South Africa batsmen



BEN STANSALL/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Aligning with royal protocol, South Africa performed a procession of their own at the Kia Oval: six batsmen were back in the hutch barely an hour after Charles had been officially proclaimed King. The chief beneficiary was Ollie Robinson, who at that point had four for 14.

By the time he had helped to polish off the South Africa innings for 118, he had taken ten for 140 since his return to the England side in the second Test. He has completely vindicated his recall – at the expense of Matthew Potts – and justified Chris Martin's faith in him. Martin, an avid cricket fan, gave Robinson *The Oxygen Advantage* by Patrick McKeown, a book about breathing techniques, when they met recently backstage at a Coldplay concert.

The Oval pitch was the advantage that Robinson utilised yesterday. It always rewards tall bowlers with high actions. From release points of over two metres there is a discernible "kick" of the ball as it rises off the pitch. Morne Morkel, Bob Willis, Angus Fraser, Andrew Caddick, Steve Harmison and Stuart Broad have all achieved five-wicket hauls on this ground and, interestingly, James Anderson never has. Over the past 30 years Surrey's most successful bowler on this track has been Martin Bicknell, who was of negligible pace but made the most of his 6ft 4in height and lured 443 batsmen to their doom here.

There are some similarities between Bicknell and Robinson. A long, coasting run and no overt menace – in other words a lack of ferocious deliveries or wicked swing – but a very upright delivery point and a relentlessness of approach. In the ECB's rigorous assessment of its players Robinson's release point of 2.20m (7ft 3in) is higher than most other bowlers in the country. He is 6ft 5in but stays very "tall" at the crease with a braced front leg. Broad, by comparison, collapses slightly on release and loses height. Robinson makes a good-length ball "stand up" – hitting higher up the bat than other bowlers.

The higher the standard you play at, the more of an asset that is. As a fastish bowler under 6ft tall, I found it hard to contain the best players. On a flattish pitch my good length deliveries could be driven by top Test batsmen, such as Graham Gooch or Viv Richards, hitting through the line of a ball that was not (always) of driveable length. Fraser, my county team-mate, was slower and moved the ball less, but his 6ft 5in height made him harder to dominate. In addition a batsman has to make a greater adjustment of his eyeline looking up at a 6ft 5in bowler's release and then down to the ball's pitch point. It is batting vertigo.

That kind of contrast was tangible at the Oval. Robinson's first five overs brought three wickets and conceded only one boundary. The first six overs



Petersen briefly shouldered arms but was bowled by Robinson for 12 runs

### 'Robinson's skill was in sustaining a probing, slightly fuller length without ever giving batsmen a chance to drive'

from Kagiso Rabada – much faster and more obviously threatening than Robinson but with a lower trajectory – cost 49 against England's gung-ho top order. Marco Jansen (6ft 8in) stood out – literally – as the bowler who gave the home batsmen the most problems.

It was enterprising of Ben Stokes to again give Robinson the new ball ahead of Broad when England took the field. With two left-handed openers to harass, Broad – a southpaw's nemesis – would have been the more obvious choice. But after two awkward deliveries from Robinson that Dean Elgar only just survived, he poked hopefully at the third and heard it extract his off stump.

Keegan Petersen shouldered arms to his first ball from Robinson which bounced over the stumps. But two overs later he did the same to a fractionally fuller delivery which jagged back and bowled him. With Anderson having extracted Sarel

Erwee – South Africa's only half-century-maker in the series – with a beautifully angled delivery, South Africa were 21 for three.

Robinson, continuing to maintain a metronomic line from the Pavilion End after the drinks interval produced an awkward leg-cutter to Kyle Verreynne, which he could only nick behind. South Africa had lost half their side for 32 and must have been regretting taking the option between Tests to play golf at the Belfry rather than have match practice. Their technical inadequacy betrayed their inexperience. Only one of their top seven (Elgar) has played more than ten Tests.

By the time Robinson was rested at 12.30pm he had bowled eight overs of immaculate control and persistent threat and taken four for 21. The extra bounce at the Oval can flatter bowlers who luxuriate in banging the ball in and seeing it fly through chest-high without actually threatening to take wickets. Robinson's skill was in sustaining a probing, slightly fuller length without ever giving the batsmen the opportunity to drive. There was only one half-volley – driven for four by Jansen – in that opening eight-over spell.

Inevitably South Africa's lower order found more scoring opportunities as the ball got softer but when Robinson, in his second spell, induced Jansen into an overambitious drive for his fifth wicket, he had moved up to 14th place on the list of best Test career bowling averages (49 wickets at 19.79.) The only bowler from the past 60 years placed higher is New Zealand's Kyle Jamieson and he is 6ft 8in tall.

### ON TV TODAY

**England v South Africa**  
Sky Sports Main Event/Cricket, 11am

TWEET OF THE DAY

Thanks to Mark Puttick for posting this nugget: "Ollie Robinson takes England men's first Test five-fer under a British King since Malcolm Hilton's 5-61 v India in 1952"



# EVERYONE GETS IT RIGHT

Tribute at the Oval was poignant and dignified but the national sport was so afraid of doing the wrong thing that it failed to do the right thing

DAVID WALSH



Chief Sports Writer

When the football authorities considered how best to respond to the Queen's death, their sole concern was to do the right thing. For once, an important football decision would be made without regard to the financial fallout or without consideration of the effects on an already congested fixture list. From this well-intentioned starting point the game's guardians got it wrong.

In deciding to cancel all this weekend's football, they did so to show their respect for the memory of the Queen and all that she stood for. Football is the national sport, the Queen was patron of the Football Association and her grandson is its president. Mindful of its place at the centre of so many lives, the game sought the ultimate expression of sympathy.

There is no inclination to criticise the football authorities. They did what they thought was best, perhaps because they feared the public reaction to any decision that said "business as usual" this weekend. It is true, the Premier League, the FA, and the English Football League were going to be damned if they cancelled and damned if they didn't. They preferred the former. That was understandable.

It was a big call. All football cancelled. Not just the professional fixtures but the community game and every fixture or training session from adult football down to the youngest underage teams. The coach of a boys team sent a message to his players. It began: "We can't train under the club colours on Saturday but, along with other teams in the club, we hope to run an unofficial session."

When the "unofficial" session went ahead, the boys were reminded not to wear the club's official kit. It was as if they were engaging in some illicit act. The alternative, of course, would have

meant many of the kids stuck at home, spending more time on their computers.

People react differently in times of national mourning. Many feel they can behave respectfully while going on with their lives. Many football people were perplexed by the decision to cancel their weekend's sport while shops, theatres, businesses remained open and so many other sporting events were taking place.

The tribute paid to the Queen before the start of play in day three of the deciding Test between England

and South Africa at the Kia Oval was both poignant and dignified. After a minute's silence Laura Wright led the singing of *God Save the King* and as they joined in, almost 27,500 cricket fans paid their respects to the Queen while acknowledging the change that has taken place.

When the oldest classic in horse racing, the St Leger, takes place at Doncaster this afternoon, you can be certain that the tribute to the Queen will be heartfelt because she truly loved racing. All those present this afternoon will recall the occasion for a long time to come.

For many football fans, the disappointment is not so much that they didn't get to see their team this weekend but that they didn't have the opportunity to express their grief, their sympathy and their love for the Queen. For many this was the moment to express how they are feeling, their chance to put their differences to one side and speak as one.

The Football Supporters' Association made this very point in a statement it released on Friday. "We believe football is at its finest when bringing people together at times of huge national significance – be those moments of joy or moments of mourning. Our view, which we shared with the football authorities, is that most supporters would have liked to go to games this weekend and pay their respect to the Queen alongside their fellow fans."

There was a glimpse of how football felt in the almost reverential minute's silence at Old Trafford on Thursday evening when Manchester United entertained Real Sociedad in the Europa League.

Further south, an hour or so after the announcement of the Queen's passing, West Ham United hosted the Romanian side FCSB in the Europa Conference League, the minute's silence led to a spontaneous rendition of the national anthem. That seemed entirely appropriate.

Supporters of other football teams would have appreciated having that opportunity this weekend. That was denied to them by governing bodies so afraid of doing the wrong thing, they failed to do the right thing.

## FOOTBALL LEAGUE TO RESUME ON TUESDAY

Domestic football is set to return on Tuesday with the English Football League (EFL) planning to resume its programme, (Jonathan Northcroft writes).

A full round of Championship, League One and League Two fixtures is scheduled to take place in midweek although each fixture will be reviewed by the clubs involved, local police forces and the EFL itself – and if it is felt there might be a policing or safety issue around any match it will be postponed.

The Premier League and EFL will also assess the possible impact on next weekend's fixtures of the Queen's funeral on September 19. Resourcing issues, particularly in respect of policing – with officers on standby to be seconded to London – will be considered on a match-by-match basis.

The Premier League is set to resume on Friday night, when Aston Villa host Southampton and Fulham travel to play Nottingham Forest. In London, Tottenham Hotspur face Leicester City at 5.30pm on Saturday, while Sunday has Brentford v Arsenal and Chelsea at home to Liverpool.

Midweek European games are also set to go ahead.



## No fuss, just a very British tribute that struck all the right notes

ELIZABETH AMMON



There was, understandably, some nervousness among senior ECB officials. Had they had made the right decision to carry on with this Test and, having done so, would the day's proceedings strike the right balance between a respectful tribute that reflected the mood of the nation and keeping the show on the road to finish England's incredible summer?

Everything that took place in the build-up to the first ball at the Kia Oval went immaculately. It totally vindicated the decision to go ahead and made the glare of the spotlight on the FA even brighter, after it had denied football fans the opportunity to share a similar collective moment.

It could not have been more fitting that one of the first public renditions of *God Save the King* took place on land that up until two days ago was owned by the new King and now is owned by his son, the new heir. Under leaden skies, the brief

## THE SOCIAL MEDIA BACKLASH AGAINST FOOTBALL'S POSTPONEMENT

They [the Premier League] panicked, went too early and have egg on their face. This excuse does not match up with cancelling kids' local football games. They got it wrong. Should own it and apologise. @WilliamJ89x

The world has changed. One minute's applause has taken over from one minute's silence etc. Personally, feel that cancelling football is just the game being performative and trying too hard – as always – to find the "right" gesture. Play and let people

mark this their own way. Jonathan Northcroft

I adored the Queen and am properly sad she's gone but even I think cancelling the football this weekend isn't necessary. Day she died? Yes. As we move forward, no. I

don't want people resenting her passing. Emma Kennedy

Given the wonderful and moving scenes at the Oval, it feels a real shame that football is not taking place this weekend, therefore missing the opportunity to





# ...EXCEPT FOOTBALL

PHILIP BROWN/POPPERFOTO/GETTY IMAGES



**'It was short, to the point. You imagine the Queen would have approved'**

A performative gesture from a sport that does not trust its own supporters to behave at a time of national mourning

Jonathan Northcroft

There's nothing football likes more than a statement and it certainly made one by being the only major sport to cancel play in the United Kingdom for the whole weekend. The statement was this: our participants, our customers and our community cannot be trusted.

It is OK for Test cricket to go ahead, for fixtures in both codes of rugby to be fulfilled, for horse racing, athletics, golf and tennis to continue. But football? No. After the death of the Queen, all matches – even, absurdly, at the grassroots involving children – were off.

Among the concerns of the Premier League and Football Association, the bodies who led the move, was that there might be disrespectful shouts from fans, policing problems and even on-field incidents liable to tarnish football's image at a sensitive time of mourning. In other words, the game doubts the capacity of those who watch, play and love it to be dignified.

No sport is better at disregarding its own people. Just ask the supporter asked to travel the length of the country on a Sunday when public transport is suspended, or the player slogging through their fourth game in ten days in the middle of a seemingly endless season. Football made a statement all right.

It also told us, yet again, about its absurd self-importance. Its exceptionalism. Its belief that it has to be front and centre of everything and that, at all times, its "optics" have to be right. Explaining the decision, the governing bodies said games were cancelled "as a mark of respect by the national sport". In other words again: "Cricket, rugby and the rest can do what they like – but we're football, the biggest, we have to be extra."

At the Oval, the England and South Africa cricket teams, and packed stands of supporters, demonstrated the beauty and power of communal remembrance when there was a period of silence, then singing of the anthems, before

play started in the third Test yesterday. At rugby's Gallagher Premiership games and in rugby league matches there were similar shows in the Queen's honour.

As the Football Supporters' Association said, the footballing shutdown was a missed opportunity to bring people together at stadiums, village grounds and playing fields in every corner of the UK to – if they wanted to – pay respects to the Queen. And for most of the world (the Premier League's annual global audience is 4.7 billion) to see it.

Cinemas and shopping centres were filled yesterday – restaurants, bars, gyms and leisure centres too. But kids' football fields were empty. People went to work, were on trains and motorways. But nobody was in football stadiums.

More than anything, the decision

**'Football has to be front and centre, its "optics" have to be right at all times'**

not to play seemed anachronistic. What are "marks of respect" these days? The world has changed. Minutes of silence have been replaced by minutes of applause and the modern way is to be overt and personal when it comes to commemoration. "Stop the games" seemed born of thinking from another age.

It also seemed like football being performative – again. Like football trying too hard, as always, to "find" the right gesture and seek approval.

We should have played and let people mark the Queen's passing their own way. Like her favourite sport, horse racing, will when the St Leger gets under way this afternoon at Doncaster.

The England men's cricket team sing "God Save the King" for the first time. Tributes also took place at Flemington Racecourse in Melbourne, before West Ham's game on Thursday, at Formula One qualifying in Italy and before the AFL semi-final matches in Australia



ceremony before the start of play struck all the chords. It was a short, to the point, mark of remembrance. No fuss, no hysteria. You imagine the Queen would have approved.

As the players and officials came down from the pavilion, the crowd rose to their feet in silence, while the military guard of honour, players and support staff formed a line on the outfield. The minute's silence was observed impeccably and ended by a solitary ring of the pavilion bell by a senior NCO from the Irish Guards.

With the ground still hushed, the soprano Laura Wright struck up the first note of the national anthems. Although she has sung at countless public events, Wright had been nervous, knowing this would be the first rendition of *God Save the King* at a televised sporting event for more than 70 years, and praying that she wouldn't sing "queen" instead of "king". She was word-perfect and

joined by 27,500 spectators, singing *God Save the King* for almost certainly the first time in their lives.

As soon as Wright had finished, the crowd broke into a round of applause that lasted several minutes, a very British way of acknowledging both the bigger picture and the prospect of a thrilling Test match ahead.

England seized the moment and within an hour had reduced South Africa to 36 for five. By the fourth over after lunch, Stuart Broad was doing his best to rouse the crowd. Everything felt reassuringly normal.

In many ways, this felt like any other day at a Test would, with the notable exception of spectators having been banned from wearing fancy dress. A handful of men wore black ties and almost everyone was in their seats by 10.30am. The bars remained shut until after the start of play and apprehension over whether too much alcohol would result in

rowdiness meant spectators were limited to buying two drinks at a time.

"It was absolutely the right decision to play," Emily Evans from Guildford said. "We had the chance to come together to share a moment. It was done respectfully and poignantly but then, rightly, we all got on with it."

Evans's view seemed to be widely shared among the other Oval attendees and, if social media is any barometer of opinion, among the sporting public too.

"We know how much the Queen loved this sport, and the show must go on," Ben Stokes said before play. "The Queen was someone who dedicated her life to the nation and we are honoured to be able to walk out on the field in memory of the Queen."

England's performance with the ball slowly transformed the mood from sombre to celebration with a perfect demonstration by Stokes's team of keeping the show on the road.

pay its respects.  
**Gary Lineker, left**

So, to "pay respect to the Queen", you've got: people cancelling travel plans and accommodation, which may be non-refundable; match-day staff losing out on money;

everything ready for the game being wasted. But yeah, everyone still has to go to work. It's a joke. **@LFCLaurie**

So we're all clear football has to be cancelled but it's fine to play cricket. The Premier League have made

themselves look like absolute idiots ... **Sam Pilger**

My two girls have been told their netball will continue. 10-2 today and tomorrow from 9-2 and 4-6. They have been told to wear black ribbons in their hair, wear a



black armband and observe a minute's silence. I'm looking forward to seeing them pay their respects in this way.  
**Gary Neville, left**

Football authorities don't trust fans of their sport. Cricket, rugby, golf and

racing do. These are based on outdated and lazy stereotypes of class behaviour. Often, it's perpetuated through media. It's the same attitude that explains why football fans are treated like criminals.  
**Colin Millar**



Football

# Jonathan Northcroft

## Potter’s soft, soulful style can deliver slow-burning success at Chelsea – if the desire for a culture shift lasts long enough



This is a story about Graham Potter; but, first, the story of Brwa Nouri. Nouri is a Kurd, whose family fled Iraq when he was a child, fearing persecution from the Baghdad regime. They ended up in Sweden but his parents’ marriage broke down. Life was tough but he had a talent for football and, aged 13, joined AIK, the biggest Swedish club. He became a star of AIK’s academy, winning youth titles and Sweden Under-17 caps but then the demons caught up with him. Hanging with the wrong crowd, he became involved in gangs, fights and a party lifestyle that led to alcohol abuse and drug addiction. Cocaine, cannabis, pills: Nouri used them all and would go straight from all-night benders to training. Such was his ability on the pitch that, for a while, he got away with it but things imploded when he was part of a drugs trial and fined by a court in Stockholm for being a buyer. AIK sacked him and so did his next club. At 22, Nouri found himself making a last-chance move. He needed to get away from Stockholm and signed for a Kurdish-run club from a tiny town three hours north of the city. There, playing in Sweden’s sixth tier, he began rebuilding his life and reconnecting with his love of playing; his team (Dalkurd) won a couple of promotions. But, approaching his 27th birthday, he was still Brwa Nouri, former prodigy, recovering

addict and Swedish third-division player. Getting back to the Allsvenskan (Swedish top flight), Nouri recalled, “was as distant as South Africa is from Sweden in walking distance”. Then came a call to go and meet an Englishman at Stockholm railway station. The guy was tall, understated and wanted to listen to Nouri’s story – and then to sign him for the team he coached, who were in the division above. It was Potter, manager of Ostersunds, and four years later Nouri was leading Ostersunds out against Arsenal in the last 32 of the Europa League, having captained them to the Swedish Cup as well as in

famous victories over Hertha Berlin and Galatasaray. He “still saw a lot of darkness” but was “not controlled by it any more” and one of the factors was the environment this tall Englishman had created at the club. Nouri didn’t just develop as a midfielder but as a person, participating in the now-famous culture projects Potter and his squad embraced, including putting on a rap show and performing *Swan Lake*. With a couple of like-minded players, Nouri started a book group. Potter “is not only a football coach, he’s probably one of the best men I met in my life. He is so emotionally intelligent in his way of interacting [with] people, making you welcome and developing you,” Nouri reflected in 2018. And his life has turned out pretty nicely: at 35 he is seeing out his career with the sun on his back at Bali United in Indonesia’s top flight. When I interviewed Potter last month, as Brighton & Hove Albion manager, “Brwa Nouri” was his immediate answer when I asked, of all the footballers he had coached, whose development he was most proud of. “He was an incredibly talented player who had lost his way and wasn’t maximising what he had and was quite a complex, intelligent person – but a great person as well,” Potter said. “There were times I wanted to throw him out of the stadium – and I’m sure he’d say the same about me – but there was always a strong bond



and understanding between us and desire to help each other. To see him playing in Bali now, having probably had a great time and earned some money . . . to see him develop as a person is amazing. “I’m often asked what’s the best part of the job – it’s when you can help make someone better and make a difference to someone’s life.” This is who Chelsea have hired, a head coach who measures himself

not so much in trophies but in Brwa Nouris; who wants to win (and has done, raising Ostersunds and Brighton to their highest league positions) but is principally in it for the people he can affect. His appointment is fascinating because of the culture change it represents: the most traditionally ruthless of the big English clubs going for the embodiment of a soft, soulful, “new” management style.

## ‘My faith is my anchor’ – how life in Bible college was making of Ward



Joel Ward exudes an almost ethereal calm and a generosity of spirit. The Crystal Palace defender even notes how it would be good for all fans if Manchester United could rediscover an aura that has dimmed. Given that this interview was intended to preview United’s trip to Selhurst Park on Saturday, which has been postponed as a mark of respect to the Queen, it was notable that Ward did not want to revel in the problems at Old Trafford. The reason for his equanimity is clear: Ward is a man of unwavering faith with an unusual upbringing. His parents, Phil and Kim, were part of the leadership team at a Bible

college in Emsworth, Hampshire, and the family lived in the grounds. “There were anything between 20 to 30 or 40 people living in the house and a lot of those were students [aged 18 and over],” Ward says. “They would come over from South America, France, Spain, wherever we as a church had connections and community around the world. They would study theology and do lessons and lectures with other members of the leadership team and external people coming in to learn about Christianity and theology.” When he was 12, the family “moved up the road” to aid his mainstream schooling but they “were still very heavily involved,” he says. “When we moved out, we had the youth clubs and church on Friday nights and Sunday services and then there were various midweek things going on. The elderly would come in [for] services, meet and greets and

**‘There were anything between 20 to 40 people from all over the world living in the same house’**

carol services. My parents maintained the grounds and were heavily involved in church life. My mum was involved in the hospitality side of things. As a family we were pretty engrossed in it from day one.” It was called the New Life Christian Church but “the important thing, regardless of what church [it is], because I haven’t been there for ten years, is the Gospel of Christ. That’s the message, the sole message of the Church. The grace and gift of God.” His faith has given him a serenity

but it has also posed dilemmas. Between the age of eight and 16, he played only once a month because the local teams played on a Sunday. Fortunately, none of the coaches gave up on him and the games eventually switched to Saturdays. “Faith has given me a moral compass,” he says. “It has given me an anchor besides my family and my circle – an anchor to hold on to, somewhere where I can get away. I can cast my burden and just talk and have support, just having that community. It’s been a constant throughout my life and kept me steady and consistent.” Consistency is a major theme. Ward is the only player who has played regularly at Palace since their promotion in May 2013. Indeed, it was his clearance off the line in the play-off final against Watford that helped to seal Premier League status. “One thing I love about this place is



PETER TARRY FOR THE TIMES

**'A story is told about Boehly boarding the bus to reassure players, then Tuchel scoffing at the speech when he was gone'**

**Potter, who has a master's degree in emotional intelligence, ticks all the boxes at Chelsea**

This is exactly the shift Todd Boehly, Behdad Eghbali and José E Feliciano – Chelsea's controlling owners – want. Between them (through the investment firms they run), they oversee assets worth more than £70 billion but they are dressed-down sorts. Boehly turns up at Stamford Bridge or Chelsea's Cobham training ground in a black Range Rover, wearing jeans and a shirt, with no security or entourage

and likes mingling with ordinary staff. Feliciano, on Chelsea's summer tour to the US, strolled over to travelling reporters to say, "Hey guys, how are you? I'm one of the owners."

It's very different from the mystique and shadows of Roman Abramovich and the executives who ran the club for the oligarch, and the new ownership wanted a head coach who is similarly big on openness and personal skills. They decided that

wasn't Thomas Tuchel, for all the German's achievements and tactical intellect. In Potter they see a fuller package. "He has all the IQ but he also has the EQ," is Boehly's verdict on Potter – EQ being emotional intelligence, in which Potter literally holds a master's degree.

Tuchel, having forged close relationships with Marina Granovskaia (who ran Chelsea for Abramovich) and, particularly, Petr Cech (the club's former technical and performance adviser), was perceived to dislike Boehly and co's different tone, especially their desire for discussion and collaboration on footballing decisions.

A story is told about Boehly boarding the team bus after Chelsea lost 4-0 to Arsenal on tour – to offer reassuring words to the players – then Tuchel scoffing at the speech when he was gone. Potter is holistic and relaxed about others having a say. The biggest takeaway from my interview with him was that I had rarely met a manager with less ego.

On Friday, his first full day at Chelsea, Potter, 47, introduced himself to staff and made a brief address, talking about his path from retirement as a journeymen player, to coaching university teams, to the gamble of uprooting his family to join Ostersunds (then in the Swedish fourth division) in 2011, to rebooting Swansea City and to his remarkable work with Brighton. He said that hard work is all he knows and is what everyone at Chelsea will get from him.

Typical is his decision to retain Anthony Barry – a rising coaching star who was a key assistant to both Tuchel and Frank Lampard. Many new head coaches like to clear out the backroom staff and work with their own people when they arrive at clubs, but Potter sees Barry as an asset and has spoken to the Belgium manager Roberto Martínez (Barry is also Belgium first-team coach) to get a picture of his abilities.

The question is: will Boehly's group stick with the culture shift if Potter and his slow-burn ways take longer than big clubs are normally comfortable with to deliver success? Part of their reasoning for ditching Tuchel, after all, was that when the German completed 100 matches as Chelsea head coach they crunched the numbers and noted the downturn in results and goal

## MARTIAL BLASTS MOURINHO AND SAYS SOLSKJAER WAS GUILTY OF 'TREACHERY'

Anthony Martial has accused his former Manchester United managers José Mourinho and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer of a "lack of respect" and "treachery".

The France forward moved to Old Trafford from Monaco in 2015. After a good season under Luis van Gaal he lost his form when Mourinho came in and he has struggled since. Mourinho said Martial was one of his squad's "spoilt kids" who was "lacking maturity".

Martial, inset, has hit back in an interview for *France Football* magazine. He said he was not keen on switching from No 9 to No 11 when Mourinho sent him a text message during a break.

"When I returned to the club, I see my name with the No 11. He [Mourinho] lacked direct respect

for me. He talked about me in the press, like he had done with Karim Benzema at Real Madrid. He knows that I am 20, that if I say something, it is I who will pass for the young person who lacks respect."

Martial, who suffered an achilles' injury at the start of this season and who has made only one

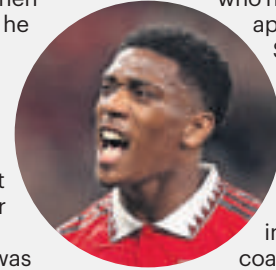
appearance, claimed that Solskjaer refused to stick up for him after

criticism of his performances despite knowing he was playing with an injury.

"I regularly played injured," he said. "The coach never bothered to tell

the media. I took it very badly.

You are asked to sacrifice yourself for the team and behind the scenes you are dismissed. For me, it's almost treachery. I can be blamed, but not for being fake."



difference when comparing his second 50 games with his first 50.

That's fairly black-and-white stuff, but the Americans are letting it be known that they do not plan to simply measure coaches by results, as Abramovich did. It is said that, while finishing in the top four is clearly desirable, Potter will not be judged on this in the short-term.

He has a five-year contract and a brief to fulfil their vision for what Chelsea should look like in five years' time: a club where development of talent (whatever the player's age) is foremost and which sustains high performance, similar to the LA Dodgers (where Boehly is co-owner). At the Dodgers, after an initial whirl of hires and fires, Dave Roberts has been baseball manager since 2016, with the franchise having reached three World Series under his direction.

Potter rejected Tottenham Hotspur a year ago and, had he hung on at Brighton, other big jobs – including, who knows, England after the World Cup – may well have been offered to him. His belief that Chelsea is the right move is influenced by a sense that this is a rare opportunity.

He likes not just to coach players but to shape clubs and, with new owners, a new chief executive (Tom Glick), a new recruitment department, and a revamped squad, the conditions are there to do that. Boehly's next priority is finding a world-class sporting director and Potter will have an input into who he hires.

Superstar players are different, of course. Can Potter affect them? Another takeaway from our interview is that he is not dogmatic. At Ostersunds there were the culture projects and at Brighton he held meetings where players talked about their vulnerabilities and fears, but he said he was aware that what works in one context does not necessarily work in another and that a head coach has to gauge the environment and "be authentic". He said "it comes down to clear communication: what brings us together, what do we expect from each other?"

"The further you go up the pro ladder, the more people become less about the team and more about being individuals. It's about taking that away and getting them saying, 'OK, this collective is going to help me as an individual achieve my goals.'"

the culture," he says. "The surroundings have in many ways remained and that has given the club the foundation to push [on]."

"We've gone on a journey. It's not a journey where you come up and splash cash and drop back down; it's been a real gradual building process and I think it's been exciting to go on that journey, to see so many different faces come through the building and so many big characters.

"Now we are in a position where it's been a big transition period.

We've changed the style, the philosophy, but the culture has still remained, the drive from the chairman [Steve Parish] right down to everyone that's involved at the club. We're all on the same page, we all know what we want: to improve, set standards and raise the bar."

Indeed, the role of Parish is pivotal, according to Ward.

"Managers have come and gone,"



**Ward says Vieira has been crucial to his resurgence on the pitch**

he says. "The chairman has been huge in the process from the start. We see him a lot. As a chairman, he's very much involved. He comes down to the training ground, he comes in and sees us after games. That presence is always there. That's quite unique. We as players can speak to him if we need to, we have that kind of rapport. That gives you the sense that everyone is in it together."

Patrick Vieira, he says, is "one of the first 'new era' managers" who has been instrumental in Ward's resurgence on the pitch.

"This is a new era of managers coming through who have been extremely successful in their playing careers but also want to carve out an equally successful career as a manager," he says. "There are a lot of things that I have learnt tactically in a short time. He [Vieira] has time to talk and help people grow, not just on the pitch but as a character and a

person. That stems from him being a leader throughout his career. He has that stature as a man and he has that character that you can approach him. He demands from you, he expects you to perform, to get better and raise that bar. He sets those standards because he's a winner."

But back to that question of United's aura and Ward is magnanimous. "I think they are searching for that again and want to get back to that," he says. "But they are still one of the biggest clubs in the world and they will eventually get back to where they want to be and the standards they set and the force they want to be. But, like anything, that takes time to do.

"There has been a lot of change in the past seven, eight years at the club. There have been a lot of ups and downs. I think, as a football fan, you want to see them back competing where they should be."

# MIND THE GAP

**To read Tom Allnutt on how Chelsea dropped out of Europe's super elite and the challenge of getting them back into it, go to:**

**THESUNDAYTIMES.CO.UK/SPORT**



# 'Brazilians playing here tell the others: you must come'

East London is a long way from life on island without cars – but journey has been worth it for Lucas Paquetá

## THE FOOTBALL INTERVIEW

WITH JONATHAN NORTHCROFT

His left arm is like the graphic novel of his life, with the names of loved ones circled by swirling art of lions, flowers and stars. And his own name is a tribute, for he is Lucas Tolentino Coelho de Lima: "Paquetá" is a nickname drawn from his childhood home – Paquetá Island, in Guanabara Bay off Rio de Janeiro, an idyll of dirt-track roads and baobab trees, where you go by bicycle, foot or even horse-drawn carriage, because there are no motor vehicles.

Lucas Paquetá, therefore, is a glamour footballer rooted in something humble: the people and places who shaped his journey and – he says – remain with him on the pitch. That sense of soul is evident in his view of his £51million transfer to West Ham United from Lyon. Capturing Brazil's No10 in his prime is pinch-yourself stuff for fans – but Paquetá feels the lucky one is him.

His reception, when unveiled at the London Stadium two weeks ago, "made me incredibly emotional: my wife and mum were crying". His desire is "to devote myself to this club – to repay the trust of everyone".

We need an interpreter for this, his first big interview with an English language outlet, but the 25-year-old's smile needs no translation as he describes Paquetá Island. "It's a very tranquil place and it's true that I miss it. I get that famous Brazilian *saudade* [a feeling of longing for one's roots]," he reflects. "If you live on the island, no one is a stranger. The houses are surrounded by nature but close together and the feeling is of togetherness. Your family is everybody on the island."

His father, Marcelo, was in the military while Cristiane, his mum, was a hairdresser. When he turned pro he bought her a salon. Matheus, his older brother, is a journeyman player, last seen in Brazil's fourth division. They learnt their football playing on the sand – or, on the rare occasions they persuaded the older lads to let them join a game on Paquetá's solitary, crowded and competitive grass pitch.

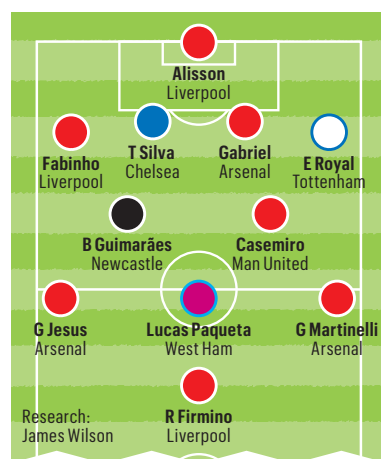
A big figure on the island was Mirao, their late grandad. "He was someone admired by everybody there, someone who was always looking to improve people, sportsmen in particular, and train them up at the school. That was always his life's mission and sometimes it makes me cry a little bit when I think that the person [the future star] he was looking for was actually in his house," Paquetá says.

Mirao – whose name is among Paquetá's tattoos – died before Paquetá's debut for Flamengo in 2016. It was his mother who took him to the city for his successful trial and she, or more often Mirao, was the chaperone on a gruelling daily journey.

Matheus was at Flamengo too but trained in a different part of Rio. The boys would leave the island at 9am by boat, arrive in the city, bus their way to Matheus's training and then bus across town to Paquetá's practice. From there, a three-bus journey took them back to catch the last boat to Paquetá at midnight. They'd get home at 1am – then wake up the next morning to do it all again. This went on until Paquetá was 12 and his mother decided to move with him to the city, to be nearer Flamengo's academy.

Representing Flamengo "was an absolute privilege, because of the history" and he is proud to be part of the club's great line of vivid, creative players. He became friendly with the greatest of all, Zico ("a king") and was Flamengo's star in the 2017 and 2018 campaigns, scoring in both the Brazilian Cup and Copa Sudamericana finals.

### HOW BEST OF BRAZIL PREMIER LEAGUE XI COULD LOOK



Paquetá appears the ideal player to develop West Ham's game while fitting in with their ethos, as seen below

In February 2019, a month after he left for AC Milan, a fire in the early hours at Flamengo's youth training ground killed ten players, all aged between 14 and 16, and the tragedy still hits him hard. He dedicated his first Serie A goal to the victims and talks quietly, staring at the ground, when he says, "I knew some of the youngsters who passed away. They were people who asked me for photos when I was playing there and I just felt so bad, so sad for their families. I had lived there [in the dormitories at the training centre]. I had slept in those rooms and been in the same spaces that those kids were in. There are so many things that go through your head. But thankfully the club is taking care of the families and hopefully some strength can come out of that."

Milan was an up-and-down time. He was the only Brazilian and, shy by nature, struggled to adapt to living away from home. But he believes it was an important experience and that when he arrived in Lyon in the summer of 2020, "I was a different player – I never doubted I would fulfil my potential but I'm very grateful to that club for restoring my confidence in myself". A key role in his adaptation was played by Juninho Pernambucano, the iconic Brazilian No10 who is now Lyon's sporting director.

Before joining West Ham, he was linked with Manchester City and Newcastle United – where his compatriot and former Lyon midfielder mate, Bruno Guimarães, plays. Before the postponement of this weekend's Premier League fixtures they had been due to go head to head, with more than just three points at stake. "We had a bet with each other that the loser has to buy dinner – dinner in London, because we already

**It's the best league in the world and us Brazilians talk about that – there's no doubt about it'**

had dinner in Newcastle," Paquetá smiles.

"Bruno and Vinicius Jr [the Real Madrid playmaker] are my two best friends in football. I've known Vini since we were ten, at Flamengo, and me and Bruno built this amazing friendship at Lyon and became really close. It seems like yesterday we were playing video games together and talking about what it would be like if we ever played against each other. And soon it will happen." Guimarães has asked Paquetá to be godfather to the child his girlfriend is expecting.

Before joining West Ham, Paquetá sought his friend's advice. "Bruno told me the Premier League is a great competition and was very complimentary about West Ham. He told me it was a great club and difficult to play against. I just joked and said, 'They'll be even more difficult when I am there.'"

It was Paquetá, who has



33 caps, who scored the goal, against Colombia last November, that assured Brazil of World Cup qualification. Also involved in the game were Casemiro, Fred, Gabriel Jesus, Thiago Silva, Alisson, Fabinho and Antony. Philippe Coutinho, Ederson, Gabriel, Emerson Royal and Renan Lodi were on the bench.

Then there is Richarlison, Gabriel Martinelli, Roberto Firmino, Douglas Luiz, Arthur and of course Guimarães – all of whom are also contending for places in Tite's World Cup squad. Why are so many top Brazilians coming to the Premier League? "For a start, it's the best league in the world and I don't think anyone doubts it," Paquetá says. "The Brazilians talk about that. The ones who are here say to the others, 'You have to come – you're playing in a league that is the absolute best level, a different level to elsewhere.'"

The difference Paquetá made when he came on in Thursday's Europa Conference League match with FCSSB was stark: suddenly West Ham had someone to break the lines with their passing and on/off ball running. Robust and a worker, as well as a technician, he appears ideal to develop West Ham's game while fitting in with the players and ethos already in place.

Interviewed for West Ham's website the day after he signed, Paquetá impressed people at the club by talking about Sir Geoff Hurst. "When you arrive at a club it is important to show humility and learn about its past," he says. "It is like when I arrived at Flamengo. It is important to aspire to follow in the footsteps of those former players and come as close as possible to achieving what they did."

Heritage, to the boy from the island, is everything.



# ELECTRIC LECLERC LIGHTS UP MONZA

REBECCA CLANCY



Motor Racing Correspondent, Monza

*Nessun Dorma* blasted around the Monza circuit moments before the top ten cars took to the track for qualifying and certainly no one was sleeping as Charles Leclerc secured pole position at Ferrari's home track. The sold-out grandstands cheered as their man went fastest, the perfect way to celebrate the track's 100 year anniversary. Leclerc's title rival, Max Verstappen, was second-quickest, with the other Ferrari driver, Carlos Sainz, third.

After the delight came mass confusion as attempts were made to work out the grid. The only thing known was that Leclerc was the only man who would start the race in the position in which he qualified.

Nine drivers have engine penalties, ranging from a five-place drop for Verstappen – in seventh – to a back-of-the-grid start for Lewis Hamilton, in 19th.

Mercedes' George Russell was promoted to second during the reshuffle, having qualified sixth. The Briton was downbeat, though, as he admitted that "we don't deserve to be second" as the team have still not managed to get to grips with why the car's performance fluctuates so much over the course of a weekend.

However, Russell was optimistic at least that a podium place was on the cards, with their race pace in practice sessions affording them the confidence that they can fight with the likes of Ferrari.

The Red Bulls, however, may prove too much and Russell admitted it would be "pretty stupid to bet against" a Verstappen victory.



JENNIFER LORENZINI/REUTERS

Leclerc secured pole position at Ferrari's home track in Italy

**'I was thinking of taking my iPad in the race – there's a new Game of Thrones'**

"He just needs to keep his nose clean in the first two laps and he'll cruise to victory," Russell said.

McLaren's Lando Norris also benefited from nearly half the grid taking penalties as his seventh in qualifying was converted to a third place on the starting grid.

This was Verstappen's second engine penalty in three races. In Belgium he started 14th, was leading the race after 12 laps and went on to claim a convincing win.

Another win last weekend at his home race in the Netherlands stretched his championship lead to 109-points over Leclerc with just seven races remaining. The 24-year-old is favourite for victory again here to complete this triple-header of races and his second drivers' championship seems closer than ever.

For Ferrari, the pressure-cooker atmosphere of their home race will be heightened by the presence of the Ferrari chairman John Elkann.

While stating he had "great faith" in Mattia Binotto, the team principal,

he also made clear his feelings, saying he was "not satisfied with the team" that was making "too many mistakes."

He told Italy's *Gazzetta dello Sport*: "There is no doubt that the work in Maranello, in the garage, on the pit wall and at the wheel needs to improve. We must continue to make progress and that goes for the mechanics, the engineers, the drivers and obviously, the entire management team, including the team principal.

"We have seen that there are still too many mistakes when it comes to reliability, driving and strategy.

"Putting our trust in Binotto and his team was the right decision and it has paid off. Thanks to them we are competitive and winning again. But I am not satisfied because I think we can always do better."

Hamilton, the seven-times world champion, said he was expecting a boring race, with little overtaking and with the pack stuck in a "DRS train" – when all the cars get a boost in speed so no overtaking happens – but he

had a novel, if rule-breaking, plan to keep things more interesting in the cockpit. "I was thinking of just taking my iPad with me in the race and when I'm in the DRS line just watch – there's a new *Game of Thrones* out," he said.

"I've stopped watching it because I like to binge-watch. There are lots of adverts in the middle and then you're at the end and it's like 'I want to watch the next thing.'"

He added: "I was behind Valtteri [Bottas] in practice and I couldn't catch him nor pass him. I hope I don't get stuck tomorrow, but I'm imagining that everyone is going to be stuck in a DRS train and it's just going to be sitting there and waiting for the strategy, tyre degradation and those sorts of things to come into play."

Dutchman Nyck de Vries was drafted in yesterday by Williams for his F1 debut after Alex Albon was diagnosed with appendicitis. He qualified 13th, ahead of team-mate Nicholas Latifi, but will start eighth because of all the penalties.

## GRID FOR THE ITALIAN GRAND PRIX

Driver	Team	Time
1 Charles Leclerc (Mon)	Ferrari	1:20.161
2 George Russell (GB)	Mercedes	1:21.542
3 Lando Norris (GB)	McLaren	1:21.584
4 Daniel Ricciardo (Aus)	McLaren	1:21.925
5 Pierre Gasly (Fr)	AlphaTauri	1:22.648
6 Fernando Alonso (Sp)	Alpine	1:21.861
7 *Max Verstappen (Neth)	Red Bull	1:20.306
8 Nyck de Vries (Neth)	Williams	1:22.471
9 Guanyu Zhou (China)	Alfa Romeo	1:22.577
10 Nicholas Latifi (Can)	Williams	1:22.587
11 Sebastian Vettel (Ger)	Aston Martin	1:22.636
12 Lance Stroll (Can)	Aston Martin	1:22.748
13 **Sergio Pérez (Mex)	Red Bull	1:21.206
14 *Esteban Ocon (Fr)	Alpine	1:22.130
15 †Valtteri Bottas (Fin)	Alfa Romeo	1:22.235
16 †Kevin Magnussen (Den)	Haas	1:22.908
17 †Mick Schumacher (Ger)	Haas	1:23.005
18 ††Carlos Sainz (Sp)	Ferrari	1:20.429
19 ††Lewis Hamilton (GB)	Mercedes	1:21.524
20 ††Yuki Tsunoda (Japan)	AlphaTauri	1:22.020

Penalties for exceeding maximum number of engine components — \* five places; \*\* ten places; † 15 places; †† back of the grid

## CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

Driver	Pts
1 Max Verstappen (Neth)	310
2 Charles Leclerc (Mon)	201
3 Sergio Pérez (Mex)	201
4 George Russell (GB)	188
5 Carlos Sainz (Sp)	175
6 Lewis Hamilton (GB)	158
7 Lando Norris (GB)	82
8 Esteban Ocon (Fr)	66
9 Fernando Alonso (Sp)	59
10 Valtteri Bottas (Fin)	46
Constructor	
1 Red Bull	511
2 Ferrari	376
3 Mercedes	346
4 Alpine	125
5 McLaren	101

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DAVID ROGERS/GETTY IMAGES



# EXETER BURST TIGERS' DAM AT THE VERY LAST

Will Kelleher

**T**his was a game Exeter won, lost, then won all over again. The Chiefs should have raced well clear after being 17-6 ahead at half-time, but they were reined in by Leicester Tigers before nosing just ahead with the final play of the game.

Patrick Schickerling's try, a short dart from close range with the clock elapsed, had most of Devon up and in raptures at the climax.

All the sombreness of the pre-match rituals, marking the passing of the Queen, left the Chiefs fans in an instant as their boys went at the Gallagher Premiership champions, who had gone unbeaten until January last season.

The home supporters spent the second half desperately frustrated, watching their side held up three times by Leicester, but they had their moment of joy in that dramatic finish.

Without the resting England contingent – Freddie Steward, Jack van Poortvliet, Ollie Chessum, Joe Heyes and Guy Porter are due back in week three – and shorn of ex-captain Ellis Genge and fly half George Ford, both departed, the Tigers still showed fine resolve right to the end.

George Martin, the 21-year-old forward, led the way with a remarkable 28 tackles. But, brutally for Leicester, their dam broke at the very last.

"The guys were genuinely itching to play this game," Ali Hephher, the Exeter head coach, said. "You kind of knew a special performance was coming. We got there in the end. That

wasn't a lucky win, it was fully deserved."

Leicester's head coach, Steve Borthwick, said: "The players are very disappointed with the result, as everyone associated with the club is. You look how the team battled, fought so hard – that was terrific and a real sign of strength. Ultimately we gave Exeter one too many chances at the end."

This was the start of a new Chiefs era. Out with the old head-dressed emblems, in with the new Iron Age logos. The bars changed their names from Bison and Wigwam to Devon castles Powderham and Drogo.

There would be no "Tomahawk Chop" played over the Tannoy after the rebranding, although Exeter's fans defied that change by roaring it throughout anyway. They will take a while to get used to the changes.

## Diamond: At least we played, albeit not very well

LONDON IRISH 45

WORCESTER WARRIORS 14

Alex Lowe

Steve Diamond, the Worcester Warriors director of rugby, had quipped that it would be a good result if Worcester made it to the opening weekend of the season, given the uncertainty that hangs over the future of a club deep in debt and facing a tax bill next month of £6 million. To that end it was good to see the Warriors in Brentford and they were given a heartwarming welcome by London Irish and their supporters. But, in the unforgiving world of Gallagher Premiership rugby, there are no points just for turning up.

Wearing last season's kit because

they cannot afford to pay for the new one, Worcester were undone by three of England's most exciting prospects in Ollie Hassell-Collins, who was exceptional, Henry Arundell and Will Joseph.

Two months after scoring a sensational try for England against Australia with his first touch in Test rugby, Arundell came off the bench and within a minute produced a sublime piece of skill to conjure up his first of the club season.

The 19-year-old's first touch was to meet a chip from Hassell-Collins with a left-foot half-volley. He was travelling at full speed but controlled the weight perfectly so all he had to do with his second touch was dot the ball down for a try.

Arundell's spectacular effort sealed the bonus point for London Irish and Hassell-Collins, who trained

a lot with England last season but remains uncapped, played a key role in all four of them.

The 23-year-old made two important defensive contributions during a spirited start by Worcester, executing a big tackle on Hame Faiva, the Warriors hooker, and pouncing to win a turnover penalty.

London Irish were ruthless. Hassell-Collins turned creator,

playing an integral role in the opening try by working his way across the field and combining with Benhard Janse van Rensburg to manufacture an overlap. Curtis Rona charged down the left and slipped the pass back inside to Ben Donnell for the try.

Hassell-Collins was involved again in the second try, feeding Joseph, who supplied the scoring pass to Ben White, before finishing the third himself, defying three Worcester defenders to power over the line and put London Irish 19-0 ahead.

Arundell scored again with the final play of the game after Joseph, who made a couple of cameo appearances for



Arundell was a constant thorn in Worcester's side





Schickerling’s last-minute try leads to wild celebrations by Exeter Chiefs and their noisy fans

The guys were itching to play. It wasn’t a lucky win, it was fully deserved’

So will Rob Baxter, the director of rugby, who has stepped back from his hands-on match-day role, ceding control on weekends to Hepher as he looks to revitalise Exeter after their seventh-placed finish last year.

Baxter sat in the stands with the rest of his coaches, wearing a jacket, shirt and chinos, not his usual shorts and tracksuit.

Exeter’s first half would have pleased him. The Chiefs defended well and took their chances.

Leicester’s last-gasp hero from June’s Twickenham final, Freddie Burns, had a poor start. He conceded a penalty try and was sin-binned after deliberately knocking a bouncing ball dead just as his opposite number, Harvey Skinner, looked to touch down, having earlier charged down Jimmy Gopperth.

Later he leapt for a high kick sent up by Exeter wing Olly Woodburn, got nowhere near it, and hurt himself missing the catch. Chiefs sped on and with quick hands, and with Burns down injured, scored a second try through Solomone Kata, the Tongan centre.

Earlier Burns had kicked two penalties to Joe Simmonds’ one, but Exeter led well at the break.

The blow Burns took forced him off – having failed his head-injury assessment – so Leicester’s second-oldest debutant Gopperth, 39, took over at fly half. His long kick found Leicester a route back into the game. It bobbled tantalisingly near Simmonds, giving the Tigers’ chasers just enough time to close in.

Simmonds’ hack was charged down by Dan Cole, who gratefully picked up the ball and fed new captain Hanro Liebenberg for a run-in that Gopperth converted.

Suddenly Leicester were buoyed. Next their 12-man maul pushed hooker Charlie Clare over to score for the lead. Gopperth converted to put Tigers three up.

Then Chiefs started fumbling and fiddling. Schickerling’s try was disallowed for a minuscule knock-on in the build-up by scrum half Jack Maunder, and Leicester held them up over the line twice as they returned.

Alec Hepburn was sin-binned for a poor high tackle on Richard Wigglesworth, and with ten minutes to go Exeter – having had nearly 60 per cent of the ball all game – were scratching their heads, wondering how on earth they were losing.

When they were held up for a third time the Chiefs looked cursed. But every furrowed brow lifted when, with 30seconds left, Simmonds kicked a penalty to touch, Chiefs built the phases and Schickerling bundled over to clinch an epic win.

**Star man** George Martin (Leicester). **Scorers:** **Exeter:** Tries Penalty try 20min, S Kata 37, P Schickerling 80. **Cons:** J Simmonds 2. **Pens:** J Simmonds. **Leicester:** Tries H Liebenberg 49, C Clare 60. **Cons:** J Gopperth 2. **Pens:** F Burns 2. **Exeter Chiefs:** J Simmonds; J Nowell (J Kenny 68), I Whitten, S Kata (R O’Loughlin 45), O Woodburn (F Cordero, 71); H Skinner, S Townsend (J Maunder 50); A Hepburn (yellow card 67-77), J Yeandle (J Innard, 71), M Street (P Schickerling 54), J Dunne (R van Heerden 56), J Gray, J Kirsten, C Tshiunza (D Ewers 56), R Capstick. **Leicester Tigers:** C Ashton; H Potter, M Scott, J Gopperth, H Saumaki (K Murimurivalu 62); F Burns (yellow card 20-30, P Cokanasiga 41), B Youngs (R Wigglesworth 50); J Cronin (F Van Wyk 55), C Clare, D Cole (W Hurd 70), H Wells, E Snyman (C Henderson 68), G Martin, T Reffell (O Cracknell 55), H Liebenberg. **Referee** C Ridley. **Attendance** 9,579.

England on the summer tour, and Agustín Creevy got in on the action.

Worcester found some cohesion in the final quarter that brought tries for Curtis Langdon and Jamie Shillcock.

Diamond said Worcester’s owners hope a deal will be struck with a new investor within the next 72 hours.

“If they have found somebody, great,” Diamond said. “It is a boost but we don’t want a false dawn. I have been around rugby for a long time and there are not too many people who want to put their hand in their pocket and buy rugby businesses.

“It was a bit more than just a rugby match today. If we didn’t fulfil the fixture then we were out of it, we were f\*\*\*ed. We managed to play, not very well I might add, but now we need to improve.

“If you’ve not hit rucks for the last

month then you’re going to be behind. I got up this morning thinking it would be a 30-pointer. We’ve got to catch people up quickly. It is a work in progress but it is better than no work.”

**Star man:** Henry Arundell (London Irish). **London Irish:** Tries: Donnell (5min), White (23), Hassell-Collins (29), Arundell (48, 80), Joseph (59), Creevy (70). **Cons:** Jackson 3, Englefield 2. **Worcester Warriors:** Tries: Langdon (66), Shillcock (76). **Cons:** O Williams 2. **London Irish:** J Stokes (H Arundell, 47); W Joseph, C Rona, B Janse van Rensburg, O Hassell-Collins; P Jackson (L Morisi, 69), B White (C Englefield, 60); F Gigena (D Fischetti, 47) M Cornish (A Creevy, 51), L Chawatama (C Parker, 60), A Coleman (A Ratuniyarawa, 55), R Simmons, B Donnell, T Pearson, J Basham. **Worcester Warriors:** J Shillock; P Humphreys, O Lawrence (N Heward, 60), F Venter, A Hearle; B Searle (O Williams, 35), G Simpson (W Chudley, 60); V Morozov (R Sutherland, 44), H Faiva (C Langdon, 44), M McCallum (J Tyack, 44), J Batley, A Kitchener, F Lee-Warner, C Neild (G Kitchener, 69), M Kvesic (T Dodd, 56). **Referee:** W Barnes. **Attendance:** 6,729.

# Genge gives Bath both barrels on winning Ashton Gate return

BRISTOL BEARS	31
BATH	29

Steffan Thomas

Ellis Genge made a stunning return to Bristol with a two-try performance as the Bears snatched victory from the jaws of defeat against a much improved Bath side.

Bath had been heading for an opening Gallagher Premiership victory but a try from Will Capon two minutes from time, along with AJ MacGinty’s conversion, broke Bath’s hearts. The drama wasn’t over as Piers Francis missed a late drop-goal to send Ashton Gate wild.

To their credit, Bath were much better than the rabble who took the field last season and should have been celebrating a famous victory. It appears that their new head of rugby, Johann van Graan, is pushing them in the right direction.

Genge couldn’t have hoped for a better start on his first appearance since joining from Leicester Tigers in the summer. After a mere two minutes, the England prop charged straight through a gap. He had Kyle Sinckler on his outside, but he dummied the final defender to finish a tremendous individual try. Callum Sheedy added the extras but Bath began to grind their way back into the game.

Francis got Bath on the scoreboard with three points from his boot. The visitors were beginning to stress Bristol’s defence, and their captain, Ben Spencer, broke from the base of the

ruck and ran in unopposed from 35 metres out. Francis kicked the conversion to put Bath 10-7 ahead.

With just over ten minutes of the first half remaining Bristol built some pressure in the Bath 22. After a solid scrum their forwards took the route-one approach before the ball was spread wide for the Scotland international Magnus Bradbury to squeeze over at the far corner on his competitive debut.

Bristol then made headway through their driving maul, which allowed Sheedy to combine with Charles Piutau for Luke Morahan to score at the corner. Pandemonium ensued after Morahan had touched down.

Bath’s replacements, who were warming up in their tracksuits, got involved in a scuffle with some



Genge enjoys the first of his tries

Bristol players. This led to the replacement Bath hooker Niall Annett, who had not even come on, being shown a red card by Matthew Carley, the referee, while Sheedy received ten minutes in the sin-bin. Francis struck another penalty for Bath, meaning that Bristol led 17-16 at half-time.

Bath continued to lay siege to the Bears line and they got their just rewards when Tom Dunn powered his way over from short range. Francis knocked over the conversion and Bath led 23-17 with a quarter of the match remaining.

Bath’s forwards sucked the life out of the home side’s pack and Francis’s boot made it a two-score game. But the contest was far from over, with Genge charging through three defenders to set up a grandstand finish.

Capon scored from a well-worked driving lineout shortly afterwards, with MacGinty’s conversion putting Bristol ahead. Francis missed the late drop-goal and left the home crowd ecstatic.

**Star man** Ellis Genge (Bristol Bears). **Scorers:** **Bristol Bears:** Tries Genge 2min, 73, Bradbury 26, Morahan 35, Capon 78 **Cons:** Sheedy 3, MacGinty 73, 79. **Bath:** Tries Spencer 14, Dunn 55. **Cons:** Francis 15, 56. **Pens:** Francis 8, 20, 40, 66, 77. **Bristol Bears:** C Piutau; L Morahan, P O’Conor, S Bedlow, R Lane (J Bates 77); C Sheedy (AJ MacGinty 69), H Randall (Uren 52); E Genge (J Woolmore 74), B Byrne (W Capon 52), K Sinckler (M Lahiff 66), J Joyce (E Holmes 66), C Vui, S Jeffries, J Heenan (Lewis 66), M Bradbury. **Bath:** T De Glanville; G Hamer-Webb, W Butt, C Redpath, M Gallagher (O Bailey 69); P Francis, B Spencer; B Obano (L Boyce 19), T Dunn, A Coetzee (J Jonker 69), D Attwood (W Spencer 77), J McNally, J Bayliss, C Cloete (R De Carpentier 8), J Coetzee (E Richards 54). **Referee** M Carley.

# Harlequins leave it late to seal comeback

NEWCASTLE FALCONS	31
HARLEQUINS	40

Alasdair Reid

It was only by virtue of the hopelessness of Bath and a favourable points difference that Newcastle Falcons avoided finishing bottom last season. But they showed such feistiness in defeat here that you would hesitate to bet on them to end up last this time.

Harlequins needed two tries in the final six minutes to secure the win. The second of those denied Newcastle a losing bonus point, but they had a four-try bonus to provide some consolation.

Quins moved the ball sweetly at times, but they struggled to get the kind of set piece control they expected.

Having dominated the first few minutes, and after collecting a try through George McGuigan in the 13th, Newcastle were on the back foot until the half-hour mark. By the time they reached that point

they had coughed up two tries – to Tyrone Green and Wilco Louw – and trailed 14-5. And yet, improbably, the Falcons reached the break with a 17-14 lead thanks to a couple of good scores.

The first was delivered by Adam Radwan, who latched on to the ball in the 31st minute when Green spilt it near halfway, hit the accelerator and shot off towards the line, swerving past the last defender. Then, seconds before half-time, left wing Nathan Earle intercepted a pass in his own 22 and sprinted 80 metres to score.

## A CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY

In our *Eat, Drink, Love* section on September 4, we ran an interview with Lewis Ludlow which we wrongly illustrated with a photo of fellow rugby player Lewis Ludlam. We would like to apologise to both players and all our readers for the error.

Quick third-quarter tries by George Head and Lennox Anyanwu gave Quins an 11-point lead. But Newcastle came steaming back with McGuigan’s second try in the 59th minute. Another seven minutes later and they were in front after Logovi’i Mulipola plundered a try in the left corner.

But Quins pressed hard. Alex Dombrandt put them back in front in the 74th minute before Joe Marchant capitalised on a Newcastle error near the line to deliver the sixth.

**Star man:** Alex Dombrandt (Harlequins). **Scorers:** **Newcastle Falcons:** Tries: McGuigan 2 (13min, 59), Radwan (31), Earle (40), Mulipola (66) **Cons:** Connon 3. **Harlequins:** Tries: Green (20), Louw (26), Head (45), Anyanwu (53), Dombrandt (74), Marchant (79). **Cons:** Allan 5. **Newcastle Falcons:** A Tait; A Radwan, B Stevenson, P Lucock (G Wacokecoko, 75), N Earle; B Connon (T Schoeman 76), J Barton (C Nordli-Kelemeti, 56); P Brantingham (L Mulipola, 56), G McGuigan (C Maddison, 76), T Davison (M Tamin, 66), G Peterson, S De Chaves (G Merrick, 68), S Robinson (T Marshall, 76), J Blamire, W Welch (capt). **Harlequins:** T Green; N David, L Northmore (J Marchant, 41), L Anyanwu, C Murley; T Allan, L Gjaltema; J Marler (S Kerrod, 56), J Head (J Musk, 56), W Louw (W Collier, 56), G Hammond, I Herbst (D Lamb 69), J Kenningham, T Lawday (W Evans, 31), A Dombrandt (capt). **Referee:** L Pearce. **Attendance:** 5,025.



## Racing

KEYSTONE/HULTON ARCHIVE/GETTY IMAGES



The Queen, at a meeting in Sydney in 1970, was a committed follower of racing throughout her reign. She saw Meld, below, win at Doncaster

# A ROYAL SHOW

St Leger today is a world apart from 1955 visit by Queen

BROUGH SCOTT



Maybe it is fitting that the odds-on favourite for the St Leger today should be called New London and be owned by the Dubai-funded Godolphin operation. Because racing, as much as the capital, has changed out of all recognition since the Queen came to see Meld win the oldest of all the classics in 1955 and so land the Fillies Triple Crown.

The Queen was 29 back then, five years into her amazing reign, a young, beautiful symbol of hope for better times after the privations of the Second World War. Meld was owned by Lady Zia Wernher, the great granddaughter of Tsar Nicholas and wife of Sir Harold, whose South African diamond mining fortune had enabled the purchase of the magnificent pile that is Luton Hoo.

The Pathe News pictures of that 1955 race bring back memories, for me, of the French horse Cambremer's victory a year later. That St Leger, also attended by the Queen, was the first I saw in person.

Doncaster may not have had the physical battering of bomb-torn London, but life was harsh. Yet the St Leger was the proudest of local celebrations and above all the miners' day out. Looking down from the stands, the crowd was so packed that it looked like a sea of black caps set out before us. The horses were owned by aristocrats, business magnates, and landed

gentry. Dubai and Abu Dhabi were backwaters of a little-known British protectorate called The Trucial States and most people's idea of the Middle East was pickled images of Lawrence of Arabia.

Not until 1971 did Dubai and Abu Dhabi become part of the independent United Arab Emirates, but the inherent interest in horses and the British connection was to give racing its greatest ever windfall.

By 1982 Dubai's Maktoum family already owned racehorses in formidable numbers and Sheikh Maktoum Al Maktoum's Touching Wood became the first horse to take the St Leger prize to the Gulf. Since then his brother Sheikh Mohammed has landed it three times in his own colours and seven in the royal blue silks of Godolphin.

This afternoon the first four in the betting have Middle East connections. New London's biggest threat may be the unbeaten filly Haskoy in the green and pink Juddmonte colours made famous by the late Prince Khalid Abdullah's Frankel and which have twice been carried to St Leger glory.

To emphasise how times have changed, the only English connection among the nine runners is the 100-1 outsider Lizzie Jean, jointly owned by the Leicester firm GB Civil Engineering and the splendidly titled partnership "The Giggle Factor".

The Giggle Factor's pride and joy is ridden by Hollie Doyle, who won the French Oaks in June and with 136 winners already logged back home stands second only to William Buick in the jockeys' listings. Back in 1955 women were not allowed to be trainers, let alone jockeys, and as the riders walk out to the paddock,



**'Racing has changed out of all recognition since the Queen came to see Meld win oldest of the classics'**



black arm-banded in mourning for the Queen, the emancipation of women in racing will be one of the many things we can be grateful for.

Quite what the future holds for its royal connections is another matter. There can be no doubt that the Queen's presence in the sport played a major role in bringing British racing by far the largest investment in its history. That presence is still felt: this season 43 horses have run in her colours on the flat. Logic suggests that there will be some serious pruning, just as there has been at Shadwell after the death of Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktoum.

The core of racing's attraction, and of the Queen's so evident enjoyment of it, is that every day is a battle of hope against expectation. There is always another race to look forward to and this afternoon's is by no means a formality for New London, however impressive you take his Goodwood Gordon Stakes victory to be. For a start he may well not confirm placings with the Gordon Stakes third Hoo Ya Mal, whose Derby second is the best form in the race and who, since Goodwood, has won very smoothly over the full St Leger trip.

As ever, much will depend on the pattern of the race. New London's still

## VADENI TO MISS BAAEED ARC CLASH

Vadeni will miss a potential clash with Baaeed in Paris after being ruled out of the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe by trainer Jean-Claude Rouget.

The French-trained colt finished third to Luxembourg in a strong renewal of the Irish Champion Stakes at Leopardstown yesterday.

Last seen winning the Eclipse at Sandown in July, Christophe Soumillon's mount did not have much luck in running during the ten-furlong contest.

Vadeni, who had been a general 10-1 for the Arc on October 2, had to weave his way through the field to get within a length and a half of the winner.

Rouget was offering no excuses for the 7-4 favourite and said: "He came up the outside and then he had to go inside and he was having to do a slalom, like in skiing."

"So it was quite a good run. He was in front of Mishriff like he was last time and we can't win every race. I think he was a bit unlucky, but I think the result is correct with a very strong pace in front."

"I don't know what the plan is, but not the Arc for now. Maybe he goes to Ascot [Qipco British Champion Stakes on October 15] if the ground is better. Maybe."

Connections of Mishriff are considering a tilt at the Breeders' Cup Turf after he finished a gallant fourth. The John and Thady Gosden-trained colt finished three-quarters of a length behind Vadeni.

Thady Gosden said: "He managed to pick up on it once, but he couldn't quite do it a second time and the first three are top-class horses."

unproven stamina could be tested if the Irish challenger French Claim, owned by neither landed gentry nor Middle East potentate but by the football agent Kia Joorabchian, repeats the front-running role he adopted when finishing third in the Irish Derby. In that case Eldar Eldarov, who ground out victory in the Ascot Vase, also comes into the equation, as does Haskoy, whose connections have stumped up £50,000 to supplement her for the race.

Haskoy has run only twice, the second time at York three weeks ago and on the face of it she has to improve plenty to get in the money. But the way she finally got herself running from a very unpromising position and her extremely impressive final sectional times suggest that she might well be up to it.

Sixty-seven years since Meld ran home in front of our then young and delighted monarch, that would be something to set before the immortal memory of our now so lamented Queen.

## ON TV TODAY

Doncaster, including St Leger  
1-4.30pm ITV4



# Dominant Swiatek storms to title

MATT ROURKE/AP

World No 1 beats Jabeur in straight sets for her third grand-slam singles crown

STUART FRASER



Tennis Correspondent, New York

Iga Swiatek stamped her authority as the world's dominant female player last night. The 21-year-old from Poland won her third grand-slam singles title with a straight sets victory against Tunisia's Ons Jabeur in the US Open final.

There had been much anticipation surrounding this contest between the top two players in the WTA, based on results this year alone, but it was only the second set that lived up to expectations. Jabeur, 28, looked very uncomfortable in the early stages on Arthur Ashe Stadium and gave herself too much work to do at a set down as Swiatek triumphed 6-2, 7-6 (7-5) in one hour and 53 minutes.

After winning the French Open in 2020 and 2022, this is the first major trophy that Swiatek has won away from a clay court. She is the first female player to succeed at multiple grand-slam tournaments in a single season since Germany's Angelique Kerber won the Australian Open and US Open in 2016.

"This tournament was a really challenging goal because New York is so loud and so crazy," Swiatek said. "There were so many temptations in the city. I am so proud that I could handle it mentally."

Swiatek was the favourite coming into the match. Her composure in finals is remarkable – she had won her previous nine in straight sets, a run that stretches back to the French Open in October 2020. No opponent had managed to take more than four games off her in a set before last night.

Jabeur, by contrast, looked tight, immediately dropping her serve with a string of errors to go 2-0 down. Within eight minutes of the match starting, Swiatek moved 3-0 ahead by comfortably hitting the ball with depth, power and precision.

To her relief, Jabeur got on the board with a hold of serve in the fourth game. This had a settling effect and she hit four clean winners in the following game to break back for 3-2. But there was little rhythm on her serve – she landed only 48 per cent of first serves in during the first set – and she gifted another break to go 4-2 down.

Swiatek had no such problems on her serve and eased to a 5-2 lead. A tame backhand into the net on set point down summed up Jabeur's start – and history here suggested that there was little chance of a comeback, with 26 of the previous 27 US Open women's singles finals being won by the first-set victor.

Despondently sitting on her courtside chair, Jabeur looked at the



Swiatek on the way to her tenth successive victory in a final, all of them in straight sets

**'This tournament was a really challenging goal for me because New York is so loud and so crazy'**

stats on the big screen inside the stadium and gestured towards her coach Issam Jellali as if to say, "What do I do?" With coaches now permitted to give advice to their players at the US Open, he indicated that she needed to step forward into the court and play with more aggression.

It made a small difference at the start of the second set. For the first

time in the match, Jabeur took a game to deuce but Swiatek reeled off two straight winners to hold serve for 1-0. This was pivotal in maintaining her momentum and she broke for 2-0 with another ruthless return game – at this point Swiatek had landed all 28 of her returns inside the court.

A backhand winner down the line allowed Swiatek to go 3-0 up, but she then slipped up by failing to convert two break points for a 4-0 lead. The balance of play shifted as Jabeur won four of the next five games to draw level in the set at 4-4.

Suddenly, Swiatek was visibly rattled and she faced three break points in the next game. But Jabeur made poor errors on all three and Swiatek weathered the storm to move to within one game of the title at 5-4.

Jabeur twice held serve to stay in

the match, even saving a first championship point at 6-5 down. The tie-break was a nervy affair, ending with two Jabeur forehand errors from 5-5 as Swiatek collapsed with her back on the court in celebration.

Jabeur could not hide her disappointment as she slumped into her courtside chair. After losing in the championship match at Wimbledon, this is the second time that she had experienced defeat in a grand-slam final in two months. She is a trailblazer as the first African and Arab female to reach this stage of a major tournament and still has time on her side to go one step further in the future.

"I really tried but Iga didn't make it easy for me," Jabeur said. "She deserved to win. I don't like her very much right now but it's OK."

"I'm going to keep working really hard and will get that title sometime soon."

● Great Britain's Ben Bartram, 17, claimed the honour of winning the first wheelchair boy's singles event at a grand-slam event, defeating his compatriot Dahnon Ward 6-4, 6-1 to become a junior US Open champion. Alfie Hewett and Gordon Reid fell agonisingly short of a sixth consecutive wheelchair men's doubles title at Flushing Meadows, losing 4-6, 7-5, 10-6 to Nicolas Peifer of France and Martin de la Puente of Spain.

## ON TV TODAY

Casper Ruud v Carlos Alcaraz  
9pm, Amazon Prime Video

## MATCH STATS

	◆ Iga Swiatek	◆ Ons Jabeur
1	Aces	0
2	Double faults	4
79	First serve in %	63
58	Win % on first serve	53
47	Win % on second serve	32
5/12	Break points won	3/9
19	Winners	14
30	Unforced errors	33



Swiatek kisses the US Open trophy, her first major title on a hard court

MEN'S FINAL  
PREVIEW

To read Stuart Fraser on tonight's showdown between Carlos Alcaraz and Casper Ruud, go to

THESUNDAYTIMES.CO.UK/SPORT



# 'The malice and deceit about me is ridiculous'

**The 2018 Masters champion and LIV player Patrick Reed says golf establishment has slurred his name**

Tom Kershaw

**B**efore getting to Patrick Reed's victory at the Masters, there's another memory from 2018 that lingers in his mind. Reed was at home in Texas, enjoying a rare break from the PGA Tour, when his four-year-old daughter, Windsor-Wells, returned from nursery visibly upset and asked the sort of question that stirred a sense of guilt and dread her father found almost impossible to fathom. "Daddy," she said. "Are you OK?"

"What do you mean, honey? I'm fine," Reed said. When it dawned on him what she really meant, and he realised his daughter was being bullied at nursery because of his own reputation – "nobody likes your daddy, your daddy is a bad person" – it felt like someone had stuck a knife through his heart.

"Do you know how hard that hits you as a father?" Reed asks, his voice rising in anger despite the episode being four years ago. "She was getting bullied because of me, all because of what's written on a piece of paper, and it's fake and fictitious and wrong. I can handle a lot of things, but that's the lowest blow you can get."

After almost two hours at Wentworth, where Reed is playing in the BMW PGA Championship, the 32-year-old has reached the end of a raw and unscripted monologue. Underlining it all are allegations of a wild conspiracy constructed by the PGA Tour. "The narrative is: 'He's a horrendous person, he's a cheater, a liar and a thief,'" Reed says. "Now I'm a murderer and everything else on earth and that's not OK, because it's not who I am."

This is Reed's first in-depth interview since he joined LIV Golf in June and then filed an extraordinary defamation suit worth more than

£620 million against the Golf Channel and one of its analysts, Brandel Chamblee. Its merits have been dismissed by most as delusional but Reed is adamant "that it comes to a point where you have to fight back, fight for yourself, and fight for what you believe in".

Reed believes that the American media, in cahoots with the PGA Tour, have purposely cast him as their arch-villain ever since he emerged as an unapologetically cocky rising star in 2014, and has then spent almost a decade churning profit from his personal plight.

"Everyone who knows the true me knows it's not this narrative that the PGA Tour and the Golf Channel have built," Reed says. "It feels like the media have painted me as this black hat, and they've just allowed that to keep on driving their clicks as well as the amount of income they can bring in from attacking me. It's hard to even talk about it because of how fictitious it is. The malice and deceit to say something like that about somebody is just ridiculous."

Reed does concede that, in certain instances, he has brought the backlash upon himself. There have been several flashpoints with fellow players, most infamously when he criticised Jordan Spieth and Jim Furyk after the United States' defeat in the 2018 Ryder Cup. "Should I have said that publicly? Probably not," Reed says. "But one of the biggest things is to be yourself and tell the truth, and sometimes the truth hurts. Do I believe what I said? Yes."

**'The media have painted me as this black hat and they've allowed that to keep driving clicks. It's hard to talk about how fictitious it is'**

What has damaged Reed's reputation the most, though, are the allegations of cheating that he insists are entirely false. They stem back as far as his first semester at the University of Georgia, when he was accused of moving a ball closer to the fairway, along with stealing several items from a locker room. "I have two letters signed by both coaches saying there was no cheating, there was no lying, there was no stealing of anything but [the media] keep going back [and bringing it up]," Reed says.

Exoneration isn't easily granted for those accused of golf's cardinal sin, and there was a sense of gleeful vindication after TV cameras showed Reed had twice illegally grounded his club in a waste bunker at the Hero World Challenge in the Bahamas in 2019. He received a two-shot penalty rather than being disqualified, with rules officials accepting that Reed had touched the sand unintentionally.

"I have never ever intentionally tried to break any rule of golf to gain an advantage on anyone," he says. "I take too much pride in the hard work I

do each and every day to try and gain an advantage in such a petty and deceitful way."

It is how the media reacted to the incident in comparison with other players' rule infractions that Reed highlights as examples of the so-called agenda against him. "Cam Smith took an improper drop at the FedEx Cup play-offs, there's a two-stroke penalty. Tiger Woods [took] an improper drop at Augusta after he hit the flagstick and it goes back in the water [in 2013]... Jon Rahm at Memorial [in 2020] setting up at a chip and his ball moves and he hits it and he plays, there's a two-stroke penalty. None of these guys are called cheaters. My first infraction ever is what happened in the Bahamas, yet I'm labelled a cheater. It went overboard, going on and on and on."

Reed believes the narrative against him was concocted insidiously eight years ago after he proclaimed himself one of the top five players in the world after claiming his third PGA Tour title at 23 years old. "It rubbed some people and players the wrong way, I guess," he says. "Me making that comment gave them a reason to be basically like, 'Hey, this is our black hat, this is a good guy to put down as a villain and here's our target.'"

When he did establish himself as one of the world's elite with his victory at Augusta, a sudden and intense focus on Reed's strained relationship with his parents was considered unforgivably invasive. "The things I had to encounter growing up as a kid, it's not something that there's really a

CHARLES LABERGE/LIV GOLF/GETTY IMAGES

**Accusations of cheating go back as far as when Reed was at university, but he denies any wrongdoing and says the treatment of him has been unfair**

## WHO COULD YOU MEAN, SHANE?

On Wednesday, the 2019 Open champion Shane Lowry was asked about his views on the LIV golfers playing at Wentworth. This was the Irishman's reply: "I can't say I'm 100 per cent OK with everyone being here, but some of the guys... I don't mind them being here given what they've done for the [DP World Tour] over the years."

"Just certain guys I can't stand them being here... The one thing that has really annoyed me over the last few months is how disruptive they're all trying to be. I get they're here to get world-ranking points and do that, but in a way I think they're here for that and to be disruptive. I don't think they're here for anything else."

"There's certain lads that I'd shake hands with and there's certain lads I wouldn't."

time or place to talk about," he says. "At the end of the day it's horrendous. To sit there and try and tarnish a major victory like that shows the abuse of power the media had right then and there. They just make up stories and say, 'Oh look, he even turned his back on his family,' and that's not true at all. At all. But because they know I'm not going to talk publicly about it, it allows them to have a free run to say and stir up anything they want, and that's not OK."

If Reed believes his portrayal is entirely false, why did an ESPN survey of PGA Tour players in 2015 put him second behind Bubba Watson in a list of players they'd be least likely to defend in a fight? "It's funny you bring that up because I've never played with anyone that has had any kind of negative attitude towards me," Reed says. "The only thing I've seen is players are absolutely shocked by what they hear from the fans."

Reed's fractured relationship with the PGA Tour, combined with the huge financial incentive, always made him an obvious candidate to cross golf's divide and join LIV. He balks at the comments of Rory McIlroy, who had claimed that it would be "hard to stomach" seeing the LIV players at Wentworth. Reed also reserves criticism for the defending champion, Billy Horschel, who concurred that the rebels were unwanted and went as far as to call some of them "hypocrites".

"I feel like [Rory] making those types of comments is insulting," Reed says. "I've [played the DP World Tour] more consistently than some of the Europeans on the PGA Tour, so for them to take shots at other guys, especially Billy and Rory at the LIV guys – I've done more for this Tour [he has been a member since 2015] than Billy has and I've played almost as much as Rory has for the past five years."

"I was able to talk to a bunch of DP World Tour players [on Tuesday] and not a single one had any issue with me being here because of the support I've shown this tour throughout my career, throughout Covid and at smaller events. These other guys sitting there and saying you can't play two tours, that's hypocritical as ever, these guys are playing the PGA Tour and the DP World Tour."



# MCILROY QUICK OUT OF BLOCKS



At Wentworth

Rory McIlroy may harbour a certain degree of loathing for golf’s truncated formats but the prospect of a sprint finish did little to deter him at Wentworth. After the decision was taken to resume the BMW PGA Championship over 54 holes after Friday’s cancellation, the Northern Irishman surged into contention with a bogey-free round of 65, seven under par, that left him only one shot adrift of the lead.

A thrilling finish was in stark contrast to a subdued morning as 30 players returned to the West Course early to complete rounds that were immediately halted upon Thursday’s announcement from Balmoral.

The strange mood was reflected in the muted early scoring, with Soren Kjeldsen making the sole charge of note as a round of 64 propelled him to the leading mark of 12 under. “It was very special,” Kjeldsen said of the two minutes’ silence that was observed at 9.50am. “Having lived here, it’s quite overwhelming to actually feel what the Queen has meant to the British people.”

Viktor Hovland maintained a share of the lead he took on Thursday thanks to a birdie at the last, but a wave of star names rode the late afternoon tailwind to set up a brilliant final round. It was McIlroy who seized the lion’s share of that momentum at a course where he last claimed victory in 2014. Back then, he was still in his major-winning pomp and with the golf world seemingly bending to his will. Now, he is reshaping the sport in a different manner altogether, but the course itself continues to provide a welcome escape.

“I’m excited about tomorrow,” McIlroy said of the shortened format. “I haven’t played one of these events, so it’s going to be interesting to see how it feels. I’m right in the thick of things, only one behind. It’s going to be exciting. There are so many guys up around the top of the leaderboard.”

If the ball-striking that propelled McIlroy to victory at the FedEx Cup play-offs has travelled seamlessly across the Atlantic, it was his putting that somewhat let him down in a round of 68 on Thursday.

Any such issue was remedied emphatically yesterday, however, as McIlroy’s round sparked into life with an eagle at the 4th as the sodden par fives were left at the players’ mercy. The gap was still considerable at the turn but consecutive birdies at 11 and 12 preceded two crucial saves and a great kick of fortune out of the trees at the 17th that left McIlroy within touching distance of the leaders.

Asked where victory would rank among his many achievements this year, McIlroy said: “We lose a lot more than we win, so every win is big. But with everything that’s going on around our game, everything that’s happened in this country over the last couple days, it would certainly be up there as one of the most memorable.”

McIlroy will inevitably receive the overwhelming majority of a sell-out crowd’s support, but the leaderboard is rich with popular names. Chief among them is Francesco Molinari, who is one shot further back, and still clambering out of the enduring slump that soon followed his heroics at the Open and the Ryder Cup in 2018. The man who inherited the Claret Jug from him, Shane Lowry, is also at ten under par and seeking to make amends after coming off second best in a memorable duel with McIlroy in 2014.

“It’s great to be back at Wentworth



LUKE WALKER/GETTY IMAGES

McIlroy chased down the leaders in the shortened format with a 65

and great to be in contention again,” Lowry said. “It’s a place that I love and it’s a place where I’d love to win. So I’m going to do everything in my power tomorrow to do that and hopefully I’m a happy man here tomorrow evening.”

As ever, though, golf’s civil war refused to be entirely shunted into the background. Talor Gooch, the

American, has somewhat relished a reputation as the villain of the piece, having been labelled a “hypocrite” by Billy Horschel this week, and the LIV rebel’s late assault almost elicited a fractious final pairing with McIlroy. He needed an eagle at the last to achieve that, but a birdie still left him poised in the pack only two shots behind after a terrific round of 64.

It is an intriguing and tantalising subplot to this afternoon’s finale, but, thankfully, golf’s constant squabbling didn’t intrude offensively on a day

## LEADERBOARD

### DP World Tour BMW PGA Championship

Wentworth GC, Virginia Water (54 holes)

**Leaders after two rounds** GB and Ire unless stated

**132** S Kjeldsen (Den) 68 64; V Hovland (Nor) 64 68.

**133** T Detry (Bel) 68 65; R Cabrera Bello (Sp) 68 65; R McIlroy 68 65.

**134** F Molinari (It) 69 65; M Jordan 65 69; S Lowry 66 68; T Gooch (US) 70 64; A Otaegui (Sp) 69 65.

**135** F Zanotti (It) 66 69; J Morrison 68 67; M Armitage 66 69; M Kawamura (Japan) 68 67; J Scrivener (Aus) 66 69.

**136** A Sullivan 64 72; G Migliozzi (It) 68 68; G Forrest 69 67; R Hojgaard (Den) 67 69; E Pepperell 69 67; J Campillo (Sp) 70 66; G Coetzee (SA) 67 69; J Harding (SA) 69 67; K Johannessen (Nor) 69 67; P Larrazabal (Sp) 69 67; M Fitzpatrick 69 67; B Horschel (US) 68 68.

## CORRECTION

In last week’s interview with Paul McGinley, we referred to a meeting in Malta in 2020 and wrote: “There were three parties to the meeting, the European Tour [now DP World Tour] represented by Keith Pelley and Guy Kinnings, the Saudis and the PGA Tour.”

In fact, it was representatives of DP World rather than of the PGA Tour who constituted the third party. We apologise for the error.

that only received the go-ahead after a careful period of deliberation. Keith Pelley, the DP World Tour chief executive, revealed the decision to restart play was taken in tandem with the ECB, which made the same call on the Oval Test.

“We both felt that bringing people together collectively at this particular time, having both paid the honour and respect of the day with cancellation on Friday, was the right decision and the right thing to do,” Pelley said.

Perhaps, though, it was Luke Donald, Europe’s Ryder Cup captain, who summed up the prevailing mood best: “As the Queen would say, keep calm and carry on.”

## TODAY’S RACECARDS

### Doncaster

Going: good to soft-soft in places

**Rob Wright’s tips:** 1.00 Silver Knott 1.00 Tanmawwy 1.35 Trillium 2.10 Nomadic Empire 2.45 Trueshan 3.20 New Energy (nap) 3.55 Haskoy 4.30 Atrium 5.05 Inchicore (nb)

### 12.30 CORAL CHAMPAGNE STAKES (GROUP 2)

£79,458: 7F (3)

- |   |     |     |                |        |                   |     |            |
|---|-----|-----|----------------|--------|-------------------|-----|------------|
| 1 | (1) | 511 | CHALDEAN       | 25 (D) | A Balding         | 9-2 | L Dettori  |
| 2 | (2) | 512 | INDESTRUCTIBLE | 25 M   | O’Callaghan (Ire) | 9-2 | David Egan |
| 3 | (3) | 411 | SILVER KNOTT   | 22 (D) | C Appleby         | 9-2 | W Buick    |

Betting: 10-11 Silver Knott, 15-8 Chaldean, 4-1 Indestructible

### 1.00 CAZOO HANDICAP

£27,000: 6F 11YDS (14)

- |    |      |        |                   |             |                     |        |               |
|----|------|--------|-------------------|-------------|---------------------|--------|---------------|
| 1  | (1)  | 440-11 | SHINE SO BRIGHT   | 120 (H,D)   | A Balding           | 6-9-10 | Doubtful      |
| 2  | (8)  | -10100 | ASJAD             | 50 (C)      | James Horton        | 4-9-5  | P J McDonald  |
| 3  | (5)  | 450210 | FOOLS RUSH        | 112 (P,T,D) | H Palmer            | 4-9-2  | H Davies (3)  |
| 4  | (2)  | 204500 | LORD OF THE LODGE | 22 (D)      | K R Burke           | 5-9-1  | S Feilden (7) |
| 5  | (1)  | 034102 | MUMS TIPPLE       | 8 (D)       | R Hannon            | 5-9-1  | S M Levey     |
| 6  | (11) | 02-000 | BELLOSA           | 15 (T,D)    | J Chapple-Hyam      | 4-9-0  | H Doyle       |
| 7  | (10) | 110031 | TANMAWWY          | 16 (H,C)    | C Hills             | 4-9-0  | J Crowley     |
| 8  | (6)  | 210010 | LION TOWER        | 24 (D)      | G Tuer              | 5-8-13 | S James       |
| 9  | (9)  | -30010 | RAATEA            | 43 (H)      | J Camacho           | 5-8-11 | G Lee         |
| 10 | (4)  | 216034 | ABLE KANE         | 15 (CD)     | B Millman           | 5-8-10 | W Buick       |
| 11 | (12) | 451111 | JUAN LES PINS     | 38 (C,D)    | M Appleby           | 5-8-10 | F Larson (5)  |
| 12 | (7)  | 032144 | HYPERFOCUS        | 41 (P,BF)   | T Easterby          | 8-8-9  | D Allan       |
| 13 | (3)  | 260000 | ZARGUN            | 43 (D)      | S Dixon             | 7-8-7  | C Hardie      |
| 14 | (4)  | 143610 | MITROSOFIRE       | 12 (D)      | W Muir & C Grassick | 4-8-6  | H Turner      |

Betting: 7-2 Tanmawwy, 5-1 Juan Les Pins, 6-1 Able Kane, 13-2 Mums Tittle, 10-1 Hyperfocus, 12-1 Mitrosinfire, Fools Rush In, Asjad, Bellosa

### 1.35 CORAL FLYING CHILDERS STAKES (GROUP 2)

£65,216: 5F (8)

- |   |     |        |            |        |                     |     |            |
|---|-----|--------|------------|--------|---------------------|-----|------------|
| 1 | (6) | 122364 | CRISPY CAT | 45 (D) | M O’Callaghan (Ire) | 9-3 | David Egan |
|---|-----|--------|------------|--------|---------------------|-----|------------|

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|---|-----|------|------------|------|-------------------|-----|-----------|
| 2 | (3) | 1045 | HARRY TIME | 29 M | O’Callaghan (Ire) | 9-3 | L F Roche |
|---|-----|------|------------|------|-------------------|-----|-----------|

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|---|-----|----|-----------------|--------|-------------|-----|-------------|
| 3 | (1) | 11 | PRINCE OF PILLO | 29 (D) | K Dalgleish | 9-3 | C Rodriguez |
|---|-----|----|-----------------|--------|-------------|-----|-------------|

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|---|-----|--------|-------------------|------|------------------|-----|---------|
| 4 | (4) | 232036 | FUNNY MONEY HONEY | 10 J | Harrington (Ire) | 9-0 | H Doyle |
|---|-----|--------|-------------------|------|------------------|-----|---------|

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|---|-----|----|-------------|--------|-----------|-----|---------|
| 5 | (8) | 31 | LADY HAMANA | 25 (D) | K R Burke | 9-0 | S James |
|---|-----|----|-------------|--------|-----------|-----|---------|

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|---|-----|--------|-----------|---------|----------|-----|---------|
| 6 | (2) | 211233 | MALRESCIA | 8 (T,D) | G Boughy | 9-0 | W Buick |
|---|-----|--------|-----------|---------|----------|-----|---------|

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|---|-----|-------|--------------------|--------|---------|-----|-----------|
| 7 | (7) | 10112 | THE PLATINUM QUEEN | 23 (D) | R Fahey | 9-0 | Oisín Orr |
|---|-----|-------|--------------------|--------|---------|-----|-----------|

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|---|-----|-----|----------|--------|----------|-----|---------|
| 8 | (5) | 211 | TRILLIUM | 46 (D) | R Hannon | 9-0 | P Dobbs |
|---|-----|-----|----------|--------|----------|-----|---------|

Betting: 11-8 The Platinum Queen, 2-1 Trillium, 15-2 Crispy Cat, 10-1 Malrescia, 12-1 Prince Of Pillo, 20-1 others

### 2.10 CORAL PORTLAND HANDICAP

£51,540: 6F (22)

- |   |      |        |                   |           |        |        |                 |
|---|------|--------|-------------------|-----------|--------|--------|-----------------|
| 1 | (16) | 401505 | JUSTANOTHERBOTTLE | 29 (B,CD) | K Ryan | 8-9-12 | O McSweeney (5) |
|---|------|--------|-------------------|-----------|--------|--------|-----------------|

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|---|-----|--------|-------------|------------|--------|--------|-----------|
| 2 | (8) | 010220 | DAKOTA GOLD | 25 (BF,CD) | M Dods | 8-9-11 | C Beasley |
|---|-----|--------|-------------|------------|--------|--------|-----------|

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|---|-----|--------|---------|-------------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| 3 | (1) | 232405 | MAKANAH | 25 (BF,C,D) | J Camacho | 7-9-10 | P Hanagan |
|---|-----|--------|---------|-------------|-----------|--------|-----------|

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|---|------|--------|--------------------|---------|--------|-------|-----------|
| 4 | (20) | -00021 | WHENTHEDEALINSDONE | 8 (P,D) | R Real | 4-9-9 | D Tudhope |
|---|------|--------|--------------------|---------|--------|-------|-----------|

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|---|------|--------|----------|----------|--------|-------|---------|
| 5 | (22) | 003211 | BERGERAC | 25 (B,D) | K Ryan | 4-9-6 | T Eaves |
|---|------|--------|----------|----------|--------|-------|---------|

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|---|-----|--------|---------------|--------|-----------|-------|---------|
| 6 | (2) | 45-000 | SIGNIFICANTLY | 25 (D) | K R Burke | 4-9-5 | S James |
|---|-----|--------|---------------|--------|-----------|-------|---------|

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|---|-----|--------|--------------|--------|-----------|-------|-----------------|
| 7 | (4) | 110140 | BURNING CASH | 15 (C) | P Midgley | 4-9-5 | Ryan Sexton (5) |
|---|-----|--------|--------------|--------|-----------|-------|-----------------|

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|---|-----|--------|----------------|------------|-----------|-------|-------------|
| 8 | (9) | 250110 | INTRINSIC BOND | 16 (BF,CD) | T Waggett | 5-9-4 | JP Sullivan |
|---|-----|--------|----------------|------------|-----------|-------|-------------|

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|---|-----|--------|----------------|----------|------------|-------|-----------|
| 9 | (1) | 005301 | NIGHT ON EARTH | 33 (H,P) | I Williams | 4-9-4 | D Probert |
|---|-----|--------|----------------|----------|------------|-------|-----------|

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|----|-----|--------|---------------|------|-------|-------|-------------|
| 10 | (7) | 300-00 | PROJECT DANTE | 25 B | Smart | 3-9-3 | P Mulrennan |
|----|-----|--------|---------------|------|-------|-------|-------------|

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|----|-----|--------|----------------|---------|-----------|-------|----------|
| 11 | (6) | 540045 | NOMADIC EMPIRE | 8 (V,D) | D O’Meara | 4-9-2 | N Callan |
|----|-----|--------|----------------|---------|-----------|-------|----------|

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|----|-----|--------|----------|-----------|-----------|-------|---------|
| 12 | (1) | 204116 | LEQUINTO | 41 (BF,D) | A Carroll | 5-9-1 | H Doyle |
|----|-----|--------|----------|-----------|-----------|-------|---------|

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|----|-----|--------|-------------|---------|-----------|-------|---------|
| 13 | (9) | 143043 | GHAATHANFAR | 9 (V,D) | J Waggett | 6-9-1 | D Swift |
|----|-----|--------|-------------|---------|-----------|-------|---------|

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|----|-----|--------|-----------|--------|--------|-------|--------------|
| 14 | (4) | 060621 | CHIPSTEAD | 22 (D) | R Teal | 4-9-1 | F Larson (5) |
|----|-----|--------|-----------|--------|--------|-------|--------------|

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|----|-----|--------|-----------|----------|---------|-------|----------|
| 15 | (4) | 2445-0 | MOTAGALLY | 15 (B,D) | S Dixon | 6-9-1 | P Dennis |
|----|-----|--------|-----------|----------|---------|-------|----------|

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|----|-----|--------|------------------|----------|------------|-------|-----------|
| 16 | (5) | 052050 | SUNDAY SOVEREIGN | 25 (T,D) | T Easterby | 5-9-1 | J Crowley |
|----|-----|--------|------------------|----------|------------|-------|-----------|

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|----|------|--------|----------------|-----------|--------------|--------|-----------------|
| 17 | (18) | 10-005 | ATALANTA’S BOY | 14 (H,CD) | Martin Smith | 7-8-13 | Jacob Clark (7) |
|----|------|--------|----------------|-----------|--------------|--------|-----------------|

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|----|-----|--------|----------------|------|---------|--------|-----------|
| 18 | (7) | 366061 | LORD RIDDIFORD | 47 J | J Quinn | 7-8-13 | B Garrity |
|----|-----|--------|----------------|------|---------|--------|-----------|

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|----|------|--------|------------|--------|----------|--------|------------|
| 19 | (21) | 104203 | DUSKY LORD | 14 (D) | R Varian | 4-8-12 | David Egan |
|----|------|--------|------------|--------|----------|--------|------------|

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|----|------|--------|--------|--------|---------|--------|-----------|
| 20 | (10) | 260000 | ZARGUN | 43 (P) | S Dixon | 7-8-12 | K O’Neill |
|----|------|--------|--------|--------|---------|--------|-----------|

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|----|-----|--------|----------------|--------|----------|--------|----------------|
| 21 | (3) | 136140 | CALL ME GINGER | 8 (CD) | J Goldie | 6-8-12 | Amie Waugh (5) |
|----|-----|--------|----------------|--------|----------|--------|----------------|

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|----|-----|--------|---------------|------|----------|--------|---------|
| 22 | (5) | 365400 | COUNT D’ORSAY | 25 T | Easterby | 6-8-11 | D Allan |
|----|-----|--------|---------------|------|----------|--------|---------|

Betting: 5-1 Whenthedealinsdone, 7-1 Makanah, 8-1 Chipstead, 10-1 Bergerac, 12-1 Burning Cash, Dakota Gold, Lequinto, 14-1 others

### 2.45 CORAL DONCASTER CUP STAKES (GROUP 2) (BRITISH CHAMPIONS SERIES)

£73,723: 2M 2F (8)

- |   |     |        |          |         |           |       |           |
|---|-----|--------|----------|---------|-----------|-------|-----------|
| 1 | (6) | 221142 | COLTRANE | 23 (BF) | A Balding | 5-9-7 | D Probert |
|---|-----|--------|----------|---------|-----------|-------|-----------|

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|---|-----|--------|------------|------|---------|-------|-----------|
| 2 | (4) | 121115 | GET SHIRTY | 22 D | O’Meara | 6-9-7 | D Tudhope |
|---|-----|--------|------------|------|---------|-------|-----------|

- |   |     |        |              |     |      |       |              |
|---|-----|--------|--------------|-----|------|-------|--------------|
| 3 | (7) | 000041 | ISLAND BRAVE | 8 H | Main | 8-9-7 | P J McDonald |
|---|-----|--------|--------------|-----|------|-------|--------------|

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|---|-----|--------|---------|----------|------------|-------|-----------|
| 4 | (8) | 552153 | RESHOUN | 23 (P,C) | J Williams | 8-9-7 | J Crowley |
|---|-----|--------|---------|----------|------------|-------|-----------|

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|---|-----|--------|---------|--------|-------------------|-------|---------|
| 5 | (3) | 140-01 | STRATUM | 85 (D) | W P Mullins (Ire) | 9-9-7 | W Buick |
|---|-----|--------|---------|--------|-------------------|-------|---------|

- |   |     |        |          |      |      |       |         |
|---|-----|--------|----------|------|------|-------|---------|
| 6 | (5) | 11-113 | TRUESHAN | 47 A | King | 6-9-7 | H Doyle |
|---|-----|--------|----------|------|------|-------|---------|

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|---|-----|--------|---------|------|-----------|-------|---------|
| 7 | (1) | 344502 | HAIZOOM | 18 K | Dalgleish | 4-9-4 | S James |
|---|-----|--------|---------|------|-----------|-------|---------|

- |   |     |        |         |      |         |      |                             |
|---|-----|--------|---------|------|---------|------|-----------------------------|
| 8 | (2) | 0214-0 | LISMORE | 25-1 | Reshoun | 33-1 | Island Brave, 100-1 Haizoom |
|---|-----|--------|---------|------|---------|------|-----------------------------|

Betting: 1-2 Trueshan, 5-1 Coltrane, 6-1 Get Shirty, 14-1 Stratum, 20-1 Lismore, 25-1 Reshoun, 33-1 Island Brave, 100-1 Haizoom

### 3.20 CAZOO PARK STAKES (GROUP 2)

£68,052: 7F (9)

- |   |     |        |       |        |              |       |           |
|---|-----|--------|-------|--------|--------------|-------|-----------|
| 1 | (5) | 633010 | JUMBY | 22 (D) | E J-Houghton | 4-9-9 | D Probert |
|---|-----|--------|-------|--------|--------------|-------|-----------|

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|---|-----|--------|---------|--------|-----------|-------|-----------|
| 2 | (2) | 0-3021 | KINROSS | 22 (D) | R Beckett | 5-9-9 | L Dettori |
|---|-----|--------|---------|--------|-----------|-------|-----------|

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|---|-----|--------|-----------|----------|-----------|-------|---------|
| 3 | (1) | 131-05 | AL SUHAIL | 22 (H,D) | C Appleby | 5-9-6 | W Buick |
|---|-----|--------|-----------|----------|-----------|-------|---------|

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|---|-----|--------|--------|------|-------|-------|-----------|
| 4 | (6) | 424013 | GARRUS | 35 C | Hills | 6-9-6 | J Crowley |
|---|-----|--------|--------|------|-------|-------|-----------|

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|---|-----|--------|------------|--------|------------|-------|---------|
| 5 | (9) | 532102 | MISTY GREY | 14 (D) | T Dascombe | 5-9-6 | H Doyle |
|---|-----|--------|------------|--------|------------|-------|---------|

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|---|-----|--------|------------------|--------|--------|-------|------------|
| 6 | (8) | 0-1051 | DOUBLE OR BUBBLE | 14 (D) | C Wall | 5-9-3 | J Mitchell |
|---|-----|--------|------------------|--------|--------|-------|------------|

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|---|-----|--------|--------|-------------|----------|-------|----------|
| 7 | (4) | 01-556 | SACRED | 22 (T,BF,D) | W Haggas | 4-9-3 | C Fallon |
|---|-----|--------|--------|-------------|----------|-------|----------|

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|---|-----|--------|-----------------|---------|-------------------|-----|-----------|
| 8 | (7) | 615243 | EMILY DICKINSON | 43 (BF) | A P O’Brien (Ire) | 9-0 | S M Levey |
|---|-----|--------|-----------------|---------|-------------------|-----|-----------|

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|---|-----|--------|------------|--------|----------------|-------|-----------|
| 9 | (3) | -33200 | NEW ENERGY | 63 (D) | S Lavery (Ire) | 3-9-2 | Oisín Orr |
|---|-----|--------|------------|--------|----------------|-------|-----------|

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|----|-----|--------|-------------------|------|---------|-------|------------|
| 10 | (3) | -05052 | THE WIZARD OF EYE | 44 J | S Moore | 3-9-2 | David Egan |
|----|-----|--------|-------------------|------|---------|-------|------------|

Betting: 2-1 Kinross, 9-2 Garrus, 5-1 Sacred, 13-2 Al Suhail, 8-1 Double Or Bubble, Jumbly, 14-1 New Energy, 16-1 Misty Grey, 33-1 The Wizard Of Eye

### 3.55 CAZOO ST LEGER STAKES (GROUP 1) (BRITISH CHAMPIONS SERIES)

£445,741: 1M 6F 11YDS (9)

- |   |     |       |               |         |          |     |            |
|---|-----|-------|---------------|---------|----------|-----|------------|
| 1 | (5) | 1-114 | ELDAR ELDAROV | 59 (BF) | R Varian | 9-3 | David Egan |
|---|-----|-------|---------------|---------|----------|-----|------------|

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|---|-----|------|-----------|------|----------|-----|--------------|
| 2 | (8) | 5021 | EL HABEEB | 26 K | P De Foy | 9-3 | P J McDonald |
|---|-----|------|-----------|------|----------|-----|--------------|

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|---|-----|--------|--------------|------|--------------|-----|-----------|
| 3 | (9) | 14-133 | FRENCH CLAIM | 78 P | Twomey (Ire) | 9-3 | D Tudhope |
|---|-----|--------|--------------|------|--------------|-----|-----------|

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|---|-----|--------|-------------|--------|---------|-----|----------|
| 4 | (2) | -14321 | GIAVELLOTTO | 37 (H) | M Botti | 9-3 | N Callan |
|---|-----|--------|-------------|--------|---------|-----|----------|

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|---|-----|--------|------------|--------|----------|-----|-----------|
| 5 | (7) | -32231 | HOO YA MAL | 15 (T) | G Boughy | 9-3 | D Probert |
|---|-----|--------|------------|--------|----------|-----|-----------|

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|---|-----|--------|------------|------|---------|-----|---------|
| 6 | (4) | 1-1211 | NEW LONDON | 45 C | Appleby | 9-3 | W Buick |
|---|-----|--------|------------|------|---------|-----|---------|

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|---|-----|--------|-----------------|---------|-------------------|-----|-----------|
| 7 | (6) | 515243 | EMILY DICKINSON | 43 (BF) | A P O’Brien (Ire) | 9-0 | S M Levey |
|---|-----|--------|-----------------|---------|-------------------|-----|-----------|

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|---|-----|----|--------|------|---------|-----|-----------|
| 8 | (3) | 11 | HASKOY | 24 R | Beckett | 9-0 | L Dettori |
|---|-----|----|--------|------|---------|-----|-----------|

- |   |     |       |             |        |           |     |         |
|---|-----|-------|-------------|--------|-----------|-----|---------|
| 9 | (1) | 30141 | LIZZIE JEAN | 44 (H) | I Furtado | 9-0 | H Doyle |
|---|-----|-------|-------------|--------|-----------|-----|---------|

Betting: 4-5 New London, 9-2 Eldar Eldarov, 6-1 Hoo Ya Mal, 7-1 Haskoy, 14-1 French Claim, 16-1 Emily Dickinson, 25-1 Giavelotto, 100-1 others

## ROB WRIGHT’S TIP OF THE DAY

### New Energy (3.20 Doncaster)

This classy colt has been shaping well in group one company on his past three starts and can make the most of a drop in grade here. Second to Native Trail in the Irish 2,000 Guineas in May, New Energy travelled best for a long way over a mile in the St James’s Palace Stakes at Royal Ascot before fading late on. He was unsuited to a slow early pace when only seventh over this shorter trip at Deauville last time. Given a truer test here, he looks sure to go well.

Haskoy can spring a surprise in the Cazoo St Leger (3.55). She did well to win, having been given plenty to do at York last time, and seems sure to be even more effective now that she steps up in trip.

### 4.30 P J TOWEY CONSTRUCTION HANDICAP (STR)

£25,770: 1M (18)

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| 1 | (9) | 400-16 | JOHAN | 142 (CD) | M Channon | 5-9-12 | David Egan |
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- |   |      |        |        |        |        |        |           |
|---|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|
| 2 | (13) | 5-0325 | BRUNCH | 93 (D) | M Dods | 5-9-12 | C Beasley |
|---|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|



# David Walsh

Alexander-Arnold seems to have given up. ‘World’s best right back’ is the epitome of a Liverpool team who lack energy and desire (and Klopp must also look at his own performance)



PAUL CURRIE/SHUTTERSTOCK

Klopp consoles Alexander-Arnold after defeat in Naples

Some questions are not easily answered. How could Liverpool play as they did against Napoli last week? Not how did they lose 4-1, but how could a team’s performance drop so far? The scoreline could have been worse. “We were not working as a team,” Jürgen Klopp admitted. “The ‘why’ is much more important.”

Michael Owen reminded BT Sport viewers on Wednesday that Liverpool fans had seen this coming. The team have played six Premier League games this campaign and if we can leave to one side the thrashing of Bournemouth, the theme has been consistent underperformance.

“Why” is indeed the question. “Give me time to think about it,” Klopp said on Wednesday.

Just five weeks ago, Liverpool played Manchester City in the Community Shield. Of course, the general view is that no one cares about this trophy, that even the participants aren’t bothered. Yet anyone who watched Liverpool’s 3-1 victory witnessed a fiercely competitive contest during which it was evident that these teams have no love for each other.

Through the first half an hour, City couldn’t cope with Liverpool’s incessant pressing and as a consequence, their new centre forward Erling Haaland could barely get into the game.

Liverpool went on to win 3-1 and it was Darwin Núñez who people were talking about. Liverpool’s new centre forward had come on in the second half, won the penalty that put his team 2-1 ahead and then scored the third.

Liverpool seemed set for another good season. It was a false dawn.

A week later they drew 2-2 at newly promoted Fulham while City dominated West Ham United in their 2-0 victory at the London Stadium. From there, the teams went in different directions. “The attitude was not right at the beginning,” Klopp said about the performance at Craven Cottage. Two weeks later the attitude at the start of the game against Manchester United at Old Trafford was even worse.

The startling thing about that 2-1 loss was the lack of fight. United’s first goal that evening exposed serious shortcomings in Liverpool’s defence. Anthony Elanga worked a simple one-two with Christian Eriksen, a give-and-go that got the winger clear of Trent Alexander-Arnold. Joe Gomez tried to close down Elanga but the cut-back still found the unmarked Jadon Sancho.

What happened next was, from Liverpool’s point of view, alarming. Receiving the ball close to the penalty spot, Sancho took four touches before scoring with his fifth. The first two to tee up his shot, the third to drag the ball back and allow the lunging James Milner to slide past, the fourth to nudge the ball on to his right foot. As Sancho finally pulled the trigger, Bruno Fernandes pointed to the corner of the goal: just put it there.

Alexander-Arnold never looks good in these moments. As Elanga sprinted on to Eriksen’s pass, the Liverpool right back jogged slowly back towards his own goal, presuming he was temporarily out of the game.

Sancho then took all of those touches and Alexander-Arnold, realising there was still a chance,

broke into a belated sprint. Alas, too late.

Milner was the only Liverpool player seriously trying to prevent the goal. He’d tracked Fernandes’s run, then tried to get to Sancho and his attempted block gave Virgil van Dijk the chance to get closer to the ball. Van Dijk stood as still as a statue, his arms pinned close to his sides. In the seconds after the goal, Milner almost lost his mind telling the central defender what he should have done.

So the alarm bells were ringing and you imagine that with Klopp being a good manager and Liverpool being a good team, things would soon

**‘The team needed new energy and new blood. That underpinned the success of Shankly and Paisley’**

change. They didn’t. Fortunate to beat Newcastle United, unimpressive against Everton and most recently taken apart in Naples. Napoli’s third goal was the one that best showed Liverpool’s players are no longer fighting for each other. The outstanding Khvicha Kvaratskhelia pushed the ball one side of Alexander-Arnold, ran around the other side and the poor full back just gave up.

Tracking back, Harvey Elliott didn’t run as fast as he can and after the winger muscled his way past Gomez, the chance was comfortably finished by Giovanni Simeone.

Liverpool’s problems are not all down to Alexander-Arnold. Gomez had a terrible night, Mohamed Salah did virtually nothing and though he played with the attitude that the team lacked, the 36-year-old Milner no longer has the legs for these kinds of evenings. The team’s energy and desire were nowhere near enough.

Klopp’s post-match observation was telling: “It looks a little like we have to reinvent ourselves. There’s a lot of things lacking. The fun part is we have to do that in the middle of a Premier League season and a Champions League season.”

He was, of course, being sarcastic. This team needed new energy this season, an infusion of new blood, seasoned players feeling insecure about their positions. That was the strategy that underpinned the success enjoyed by Bill Shankly and Bob Paisley.

There have been other difficult times during Klopp’s seven years at Anfield. He’s come through them. This one may be tougher because some of the fine players central to the team he built are beginning to look old. And the manager himself needs to look at his own performance. How difficult can it be to convince Alexander-Arnold that if a winger goes past him, he’s got to get back into position as quickly as he can?

A year ago, Gareth Southgate played Alexander-Arnold in midfield. It was an experiment that didn’t work. Klopp wasn’t impressed: “Why would you make the best right back in the world a midfielder?” Well, well! You’d find it hard to convince the young Georgia winger Kvaratskhelia he was up against the best right back in the world the other evening.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send your letters to:  
The Sports Editor,  
The Sunday Times,  
1 London Bridge St  
London, SE1 9GF  
email: sportletters  
@sunday-times.co.uk

Excellent suggestions to improve play in football by Les Ruffell, but the most common crime and spoiler of open football is shirt-pulling. So obvious and so easy to fix — given it can never be judged as anything other than deliberate. Yellow card for first offence, red for second. Yet not only do referees seem to accept it as part of the game, so do all your journalists! Not good enough.  
**John Williams, Edinburgh**

Stuart Barnes gives New Zealand no chance of winning the World Cup. At least he now has stopped rubbishing Sam Cane as captain, whose tackle-count, ball-handling and overall work rate in the most recent game against Argentina were all outstanding. I doubt if Richie McCaw shares his low opinion of his country’s No 7.  
**John Davie, Devon**

I have had a lifetime’s enjoyment of all that rugby can bring. I read Stephen Jones’s article desperately wishing I could disagree as I very often do with him — I can’t. I saw/felt some years ago the game was changing, with machismo/brutality taking precedence over skill. Frankly I always saw the game as a beautiful combination of the two. Sadly it’s now not. I appreciate as a journalist making his living from our wonderful sport how difficult it must be for Jones to express these opinions. Sadly, I commend him.  
**Andrew Lee, via email**

Rod Liddle has never been more accurate than in his piece regarding the forthcoming World Cup in Qatar and the hypocrisy of David Beckham. I, too, am dreading the whole scenario from no domestic football to the knee-bending. In regards to Beckham, he should be careful in trying to polish up his brand by association with the Qatar regime.  
**Michael Ganley, Manchester**

Any chance we could have a grand prix without Lewis Hamilton whining? He may have been a great champion but now almost after every race he’s complaining about his team, his car, the track, other drivers, the officials. It’s strange that his team-mate, George Russell, seems to do quite well.  
**Richard Reddicliffe, Bournemouth**



# 25 thrifty payday interiors treats for under £25 **12**



Take inspiration from the best architects to perfect your extension **8**



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# MAKING MOVES

The best of this week’s property on sale

HOUSE OF THE WEEK

WARWICKSHIRE

The Invisible House in Moreton Paddox is an ethereal mirrored multiplex, 25 minutes from Stratford-upon-Avon. Designed to look as though it is hovering above ground, the eco-luxe home is set on a secluded plot among mature trees, silver birches, and ferns. Glazed walkways lead to four double bedrooms, each with a bathroom, and a stunning kitchen/dining area. [themodernhouse.com](http://themodernhouse.com)

Compiled by  
**Georgia Lambert**





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£495,000

SUFFOLK

Grade II listed Smithy Cottage is a two-bedroom thatched home in the village of Alpheton, about ten miles from Bury St Edmunds. It has bags of period appeal with inglenook fireplaces and exposed timbers. [carterjonas.co.uk](https://www.carterjonas.co.uk)



£950,000

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Built of Cotswold stone, this four-bedroom family home in Upper Rissington — 22 miles east of Cheltenham — has a superb open-plan kitchen and dining area, and a snug with a wood-burning stove. [fineandcountry.co.uk](https://www.fineandcountry.co.uk)



£2.25M

WORCESTERSHIRE

Claines primary school is a 13-minute trot from this country retreat on the edge of Worcester. Set within seven acres of land, the mansion has five bedrooms and a roof terrace, plus a three-bedroom annexe. [fineandcountry.co.uk](https://www.fineandcountry.co.uk)



£625,000

DORSET

How does a beachside bolt hole with views of the Jurassic Coast sound? This Victorian apartment in Swanage has been renovated to include two bedrooms, a bathroom and an open-plan kitchen/diner. [fineandcountry.co.uk](https://www.fineandcountry.co.uk)



0/0  
£3.5M

FIFE

Make the ultimate move with this ten-bedroom castle in Auchtermuchty, 35 minutes from St Andrews. Built in 1530, with circular towers and gun loops, the property has about 45 acres of land and a helicopter pad. [savills.com](https://www.savills.com)



£2M

BERKSHIRE

This four-bedroom barn conversion is in the village of Woodcote, near Reading. Its open-plan dining area has floor-to-ceiling windows and there are equestrian facilities and planning permission for a pool. [fineandcountry.co.uk](https://www.fineandcountry.co.uk)



£1M

SUFFOLK

Dressed in yellow, this grade II listed house has a conservatory and a walled garden bursting with produce, including figs and damsons. Inside there is a terracotta-tiled kitchen and four bedrooms. [winkworth.co.uk](https://www.winkworth.co.uk)



£500,000

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Step out from the decorative façade of this former coach house into Buckingham town centre. Two bedrooms can be found on the ground floor with a statement spiral staircase leading up to the third. [connells.co.uk](https://www.connells.co.uk)

MARKET WATCH

# ENERGY BILLS ARE FROZEN. IS IT TIME TO FREEZE RENT?

MELISSA YORK

@melyork



What is a devolved government to do in a cost of living crisis? Powerless to tackle the underlying causes — the war in Ukraine, energy supply issues, stagnating wages — the Scottish government has turned its attention to housing costs.

Last week Holyrood froze all rents for tenants living in private and social rented homes with immediate effect until at least March 31, 2023. There will also be a ban on evictions this winter under the emergency legislation and more people will be eligible to apply for a one-off grant from a fund originally set up to help tenants who fell into arrears during the pandemic.

Although Nicola Sturgeon, the first minister, stated that these were temporary

details, which haven't been announced yet. Buy-to-let landlords and letting agents are in limbo over whether they can evict tenants to sell or move into their rental properties until the details are ironed out.

David Alexander, the CEO of DJ Alexander estate and lettings agency, says it is "both damning and shocking" that the policy was announced with no idea of how it would work. "This all smacks of a thrown-together policy to gain some publicity and deflect attention from the new prime minister," he says.

It also does not tackle the root causes of the problem — the shortage of properties to rent. In Edinburgh nearly one in three properties in the Old Town is a holiday let, according to Living Rent, and this is also a huge problem in the Highlands. In August the Scottish capital introduced rules that mean landlords now need planning permission to convert to a short let.

Another reason for the shortage is that landlords have sold up to take advantage of a buoyant sellers' market.

This rent freeze and eviction ban may make even more landlords think twice and deter investment in the buy-to-let sector. John Blackwood, chief executive of the Scottish Association of Landlords, says: "Who is going to let a property in the knowledge that they will be unable to meet their own financial and maintenance obligations if their tenants don't pay the rent or their outgoings increase?"

Tenant campaign groups, such as Generation Rent, have been calling for similar measures in England, and Sadiq Khan, the mayor of London, has asked for the power to freeze rents for two years in the capital.

Ben Beadle, the chief executive of the National Residential Landlords Association, says Scottish landlords have "taken one for the team". He adds: "The only saving grace is that Liz Truss will not want one of her first moves to replicate Nicola Sturgeon."

Landlords and tenants in the rest of the UK will be watching to see how this plays out. Will Scottish rents end up outstripping English ones? Will house prices fall in cities where landlords flee? Or will the roof simply come crashing down on renters' heads?

**This does not tackle the causes of the problem — the shortage of properties to rent**

measures, it is sure to be an interesting market experiment to observe — from the rest of the UK too.

In Scotland the average rent is on track to exceed a record £1,000 a month, according to the latest report from CityLets, a letting agency. It described demand as "unrelenting" while supply remains at historic lows; rents in Scotland are up 9.9 per cent on last year and homes are taking just 18 days to let on average.

Living Rent, a Scottish tenants' union, has been calling for a rent freeze since the pandemic struck, and sees Sturgeon's announcement as a "win" for the campaign. Year-on-year rent has risen by 16 per cent on average in Edinburgh and by 14 per cent in Glasgow.

"Landlords have felt able to insulate themselves from the cost of living crisis by passing it on to their tenants," says Meg Bishop, secretary of Living Rent.

The devil will be in the

COVER: MASCOT BESPOKE/JAM ARCHITECTS; PHOTOGRAPHER: MALCOLM MENZIES/82MM; OPPOSITE PAGE: FRENCH + TYE; THIS PAGE: CHAZ SNELL; HAYLEY WATKINS



Home



Left: Aldi's Create Your Own Cuthbert kit, £4.99

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PROPERTY LADDER WHAT'S HOT AND WHAT'S NOT

UP



● On the hunt for a rainy day activity that won't break the bank? Aldi has launched a range of silicone moulds, so home bakers can create their own version of Cuthbert the Caterpillar — and just in time for the new series of *Bake Off*.



● Cottagecore brand Cath Kidston has gone luxe. Holly Marler, its creative director, is behind a collaboration with DFS, including sofas, chairs and beds — and there's not a red polka dot to be seen. She used to be a print designer at Liberty, among others. Painted Kingdom, a fabulous fabric featuring prowling tigers and prancing unicorns, is our favourite. Pictured left is the Cath Kidston Poise wing chair in Painted Kingdom, £799, available exclusively at DFS.



● The US company Icon 3D-printed (using concrete) 500 sq ft homes for people living in poverty in Tabasco, Mexico, and is now embarking on 100 houses in Austin, Texas — the world's largest such development. Time for Britain to get printing...



● Want to own a beachfront plot of land on the south coast, but not really? Us neither. That hasn't stopped a property consultancy opening a spin-off called Tokenized Properties to sell non-fungible tokens (NFTs) of real-world plots in the metaverse. Its first listing is in Milford, Hampshire, with views of the Isle of Wight, and it's on sale for £1.9 million. Sure.

● Formerly wedding list fodder, the bread bin's popularity has plummeted. Sales are down by 42 per cent this year, John Lewis reports. TikTok upcyclers have found a use for them, though: take two Ikea Magasin bread bins (£15 each) and glue them together to create a surprisingly stylish bedside cabinet — or a #breadsidetable.

● There are 105 days until Christmas, but it's never too early to think about how much you hate Brussels sprouts. Thankfully, Ross & Ross Gifts has a spice mix to jazz them up this year. Its 50g jar of Brussels Sprout Dust contains a heady concoction of garlic, ginger, chilli, cumin, coriander, cardamom and paprika for £4.25, or you could just cover them in gravy and feed them to the dog, like you usually do.

DOWN





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## Home

**W**hile everyone with a roof over their head has been freed from the prospect of soaring energy bills, thousands of homeowners still fear having to pay inflation-linked rent for the ground beneath their feet.

This year, thousands of leaseholders were freed from paying ground rents – a compulsory annual charge leasehold homeowners must pay that doubled every 10 or 15 years – after an investigation by the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA). However, there are still thousands more homeowners with clauses in their lease condemning them to paying inflation-linked ground rents that are set to be even more costly than the ones banned by the regulator – unless they have thousands of pounds to buy the freehold themselves.

Some leaseholders, such as Keith Hince, 71, are stuck paying ground rent that rises in line with the Retail Price Index (RPI). He bought a new-build, two-bedroom flat in 2012 in Canterbury, Kent, with an initial ground rent of £250 a year. This increased after eight years in line with RPI, then every six years afterwards.

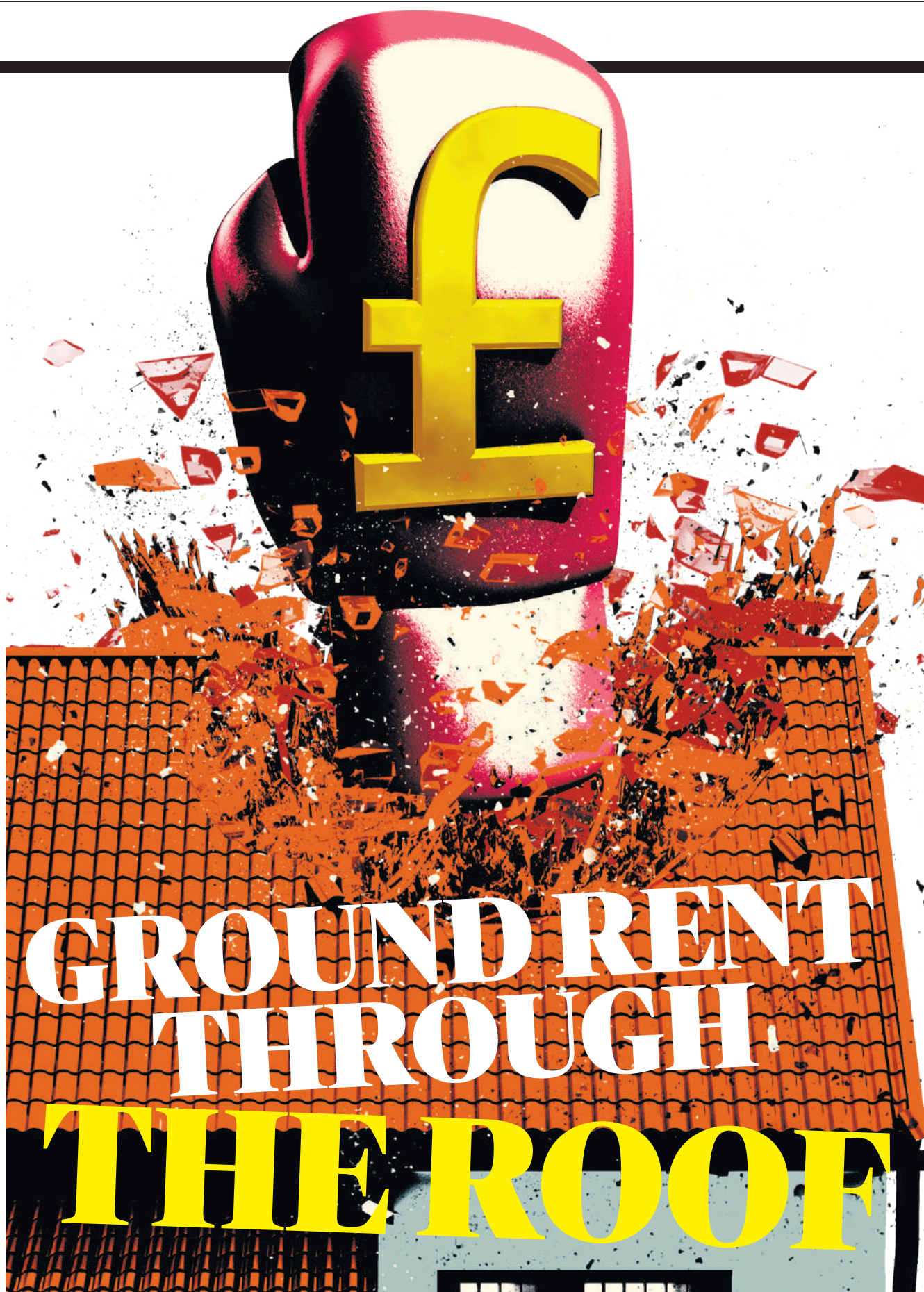
Lenders are reluctant to provide a mortgage once the ground rent is more than 0.1 per cent of the value of the property. For Hince, this threshold is £300 a year, which his ground rent has already exceeded. His next review was due in October 2024, but Hince bought his freehold last month after two years of negotiations at a cost of just over £10,000 to free himself from the charge.

“A lot of people think that ground rent is giving money to a person who will invest it in the site, but it just goes straight into the pocket of a freeholder that is based in Jersey or some tax haven most of the time. The whole thing is appalling,” he says.

During periods of high inflation, RPI-linked ground rents are worse than doubling ones. Doubling ground rents increase by 7.18 per cent a year, according to the National Leasehold Campaign (NLC), a lobby group, and RPI is 12 per cent at present and is forecast to end the year at 10 per cent.

So far, four property developers and 15 companies have scrapped doubling ground rents for more than 3,400 leaseholders, but some replaced doubling clauses with new terms that increase them in line with RPI. In March, the CMA told them to set ground rent at the price it was when the leaseholders originally bought their homes, with no “unfair” rising rent clauses.

The government, too, set ground rents for new leaseholders to a “peppercorn” permanently in a new act of parliament. This



ILLUSTRATED BY TONY BELL

Rising ground rents also make buying the freehold more expensive as the leaseholder has to buy the freeholder out of any future income. Jo Darbyshire, co-founder of the NLC, bought a house in Lostock, near Bolton, in 2010 that had a doubling ground rent, but converted it to an RPI-linked one. She bought her freehold in December last year for £8,462. “Had I waited, I would now be paying thousands more,” Darbyshire says.

These onerous clauses are even found in leases for “affordable” housing. Sashikanth Dareddy, 37, bought a 25 per cent share in a three-bedroom flat through shared ownership in Beckton, east London. It was only when he “staircased” to 100 per cent ownership in 2019 that he discovered a “minimum rent” clause for £750 a year that increases in line with RPI every five years. Dareddy estimates it has already risen to £900 per annum.

This puts Dareddy on the cusp of another dangerous legal threshold. Once ground rent exceeds £1,000 in London, or £250 a year outside it, the lease is treated as an assured shorthold tenancy in court and the freeholder can seize the property under the provisions of the Housing Act 2004. “You could live in your flat, have paid off the mortgage, but if you miss your ground rent, you’re left with nothing,” Dareddy says.

It isn’t always clear how ground rents are calculated. “Some of the badly drafted leases will say ‘review to be calculated in accordance with RPI’, and in my opinion, that’s really poor because it doesn’t give you the formula,” says Anushka Nicholas, a partner at Blacks solicitors specialising in residential leases.

Using the most common formula, a lease that started in September 2018 with a ground rent of £250 a year would increase to £485.90, so it would nearly double in five years, rather than the ten years outlined in most doubling clauses. Landlords have even offered to pay the legal fees of one of Nicholas’s clients if they converted to an RPI-linked clause.

The Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities said it understood the difficulties leaseholders faced with escalating ground rents, and it had already made “significant changes” by ending ground rents on new leases.

Leaseholders can expect further reforms “that will transform the experience of leaseholders by making it easier and cheaper for them to extend their lease or buy their freehold, with significant discounts for those trapped by escalating ground rents”, a spokesman for the department said.

Although thousands of leaseholders were recently freed from the hated annual charge, many are still stuck with inflation-linked costs. *Melissa York reports*

received royal assent in February, but only applies to leases, or lease extensions, signed after July 1.

Unfortunately for Quentin Van Genechten, a 29-year-old marketing professional, the lease for his two-bedroom flat at the Royal Arsenal Riverside development in Woolwich, southeast London, began on January 1. His ground rent starts at £425 a year and rises in line with RPI or doubles, whichever is lower, every 21

years for the entire term of his 999-year lease. This is a worse deal than the banned doubling ground rents, which stop rising after 50 years.

This is the second time Van Genechten has been burnt by ground rents; he has a one-bedroom flat in east London that has a doubling clause in the lease. He is trying to buy the freehold for about £30,000 so he can sell the flat.

Van Genechten has already paid a deposit on his new flat,

“Some developers replaced doubling clauses with new terms that increase in line with RPI – which can be an even worse deal

so he asked the developer, Berkeley Homes, whether it would reduce his ground rent to peppercorn out of “decency”, but it would not budge. “I can’t prove it but I’m pretty sure there are flats in the same building that have a peppercorn ground rent because they were bought later.” He is worried this will make his new flat harder to sell. Berkeley Homes declined to comment.





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MARTINA LEES  
@Lees\_Martina

**B**ifolds are bygones, judging by the latest home extension projects by some of Britain's top architects. Slim-frame sliding doors are now de rigueur or, failing that, industrial-style steel-frame glazing. And should you have the space, a picture window – architect speak for one large, fixed piece of glass – preferably with a built-in

seat, is another must-have. Homeowners are bringing forward projects before build costs and mortgage rates rise even further. Many have rushed to lock in finance for their plans at fixed interest rates by taking further advances on their mortgages, according to Chris Sykes from the mortgage broker Private Finance. If you are among these renovators, or wish you were, and could use some dreamy escapism amid all the gloom, we have put together our pick of Britain's most inspiring new extensions. Spoiler alert: none of them has bifold doors.



**◀ GO DARK IN NORTHERN ROOMS**  
Actress Zoe Boyle and her husband Benedict Spence, extended a dark basement flat in Dalston, east London, to turn it into a kitchen for their house above. Blocks of deep colour — loved by Zoe — punctuate the clean white lines favoured by Benedict. "If a room is south-facing, go for a bright colour; if north facing, go for dark tones," says the project architect Jessica Williamson. *Bradley Van Der Straeten Architects*



**◀ HANDMADE TILE TRANSFORMATION**  
A hipped roof extension, clad in larch and handmade tiles by the Danish company Petersen, gave a modern makeover to an interwar house in Epsom, Surrey. Downstairs is a minimalist kitchen, while a new master bedroom and bathroom celebrate the vaulted ceiling upstairs. *Oliver Leech Architects*

# BYE-BYE B

**▶ ANGLE CLADDING TO SHADE GLAZING**  
Blackened and silvered larch wraps around a fixed window in this striking kitchen extension of a young family's Victorian corner house in Wandsworth, southwest London. Set at a 45-degree angle, the cladding creates a garden bench while also shading the kitchen from overheating. *Mascot Bespoke/JAAM Architects*



**◀ LINK OLD AND NEW WITH GLASS**  
A glass link connects the ultra-modern bronze kitchen extension to the knapped flint wall of a grade II listed barn. A sculptural form in its own right, the extension creates a family hub that unifies the barn — with the historic farmhouse. *Gregory Phillips Architects*

**▶ PICK BURNT WOOD FOR DRAMA**  
A north London family wanted a fourth bedroom, but planning restrictions limited how far a two-storey extension could protrude. A diagonal wall creates a first-floor window seat, while Shou Sugi Ban burnt timber cladding unifies the rear façade and is echoed in the monochrome interior. *Paul Archer Design*



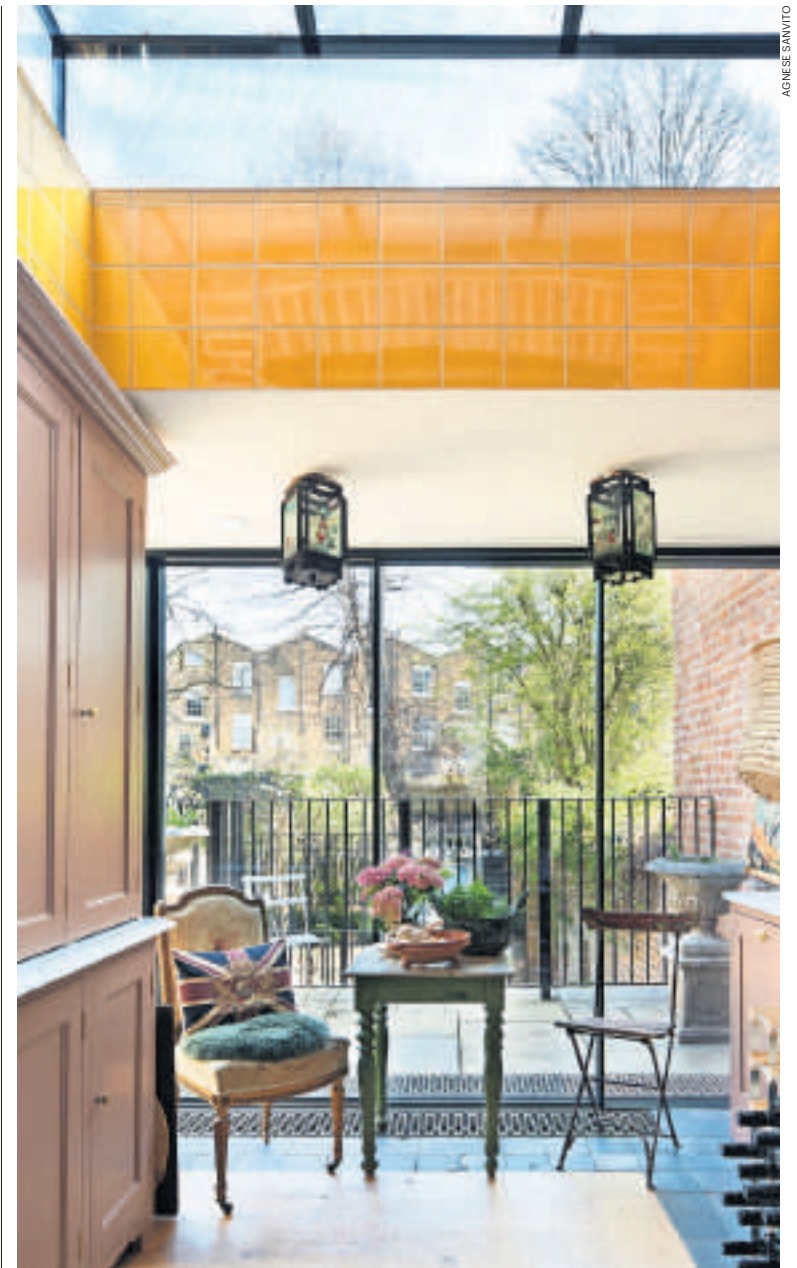
# IFOLDS



MALCOLM MENZIES/80MM

## ► FRAME GLAZING WITH BOLD TILES

It took two years to get planning permission for a £850,000, two-storey extension to this grade II listed terrace in Holland Park, west London. On the ground floor, an existing window became the way into a bright Plain English kitchen, with vintage finds and bold yellow tiles in the roof lantern. *Patrick Lewis Architects*



AGNESE SANVITO



JONATHAN GOUGH

## ► BUILD WITH WATER FOR CALM

A reflecting pool wraps around a tranquil rear extension to a 1950s house in Hertfordshire. The walls are built from stacked creasing tiles used on the original Arts and Crafts-style house. *Dominic McKenzie Architects*



WILL PRICE

## ► DECONSTRUCT THE CEILING

Playful geometry contrasts the weathered London stock bricks of a Victorian semi in Dartmouth Park, north London, with the cleaned new ones used to extend it. Inside the kitchen and living space, the ceiling flips and folds, origami style, around roof lights. *Finkernagel Ross*



ANNA STATHAKI



## Home

**I** like the challenge of making a small place comfortable. I also like unusual things, and this was the most unusual thing I had ever come across. It's crazy. It's bijou but it's perfectly formed, like a beautiful woman, or man. Beauty is all about proportion," says Robin Swailes, as he tries to explain his fascination with tiny homes.

In 2016 the property developer, 59, built Oxford's smallest two-bedroom home, at 400 sq ft, and sold it for £375,000 (£937 a sq ft). In 2017 he converted a barber shop – a 172 sq ft room – into Oxford's smallest home and later put it on the market for £125,000 (£762 per sq ft).

That same year, he bought the smallest house in Chelsea, southwest London: a 290 sq ft Georgian house with two rooms over two storeys. The asking price was £600,000 but Swailes paid £713,823 for the fixer-upper after beating 17 other blind bids – a price of £2,400 per sq ft. Now, after an elaborate four-year renovation project, he's selling it for £1.2 million, or £3,444 per sq ft.

What drew him to pay over the odds for what he describes as "a doll's house"? "I read about it in the newspaper, it was the smallest house in Chelsea and I love small things," he says.

Next to St Luke's & Christ Church and its park, it was once the gravedigger's cottage, Swailes believes. During the 1960s, it was a sweet shop. When Swailes bought it, it was a private home that had not been on the market since 1969. The owner had moved into a care home and the dilapidated property had been vacant for years.

In 2019 Swailes set about renovating it but only finished this year because of delays caused by Covid. When you open the door, you step straight into the living room: there's no room for niceties such as entrance halls here. The space is just 14ft x 9ft. The first impression is swanky bachelor pad meets Lilliputian nightclub: purple leather chesterfield, avant-garde chandelier, a round bar table and stools, giant TV, Bang & Olufsen speaker and bottles of Dom Pérignon placed just so. To the left of the front door are a couple of coat hooks. The chesterfield opens up into a sofa bed. In the far right corner is an angular dog-leg staircase – its open treads maximise light and make the room seem more spacious than it is (other light-bouncing tricks include a funky wall mirror and LED strips above the window frame, so the room always looks sunny).

To the right of the stairs is a minuscule galley kitchen with cupboards concealing a microwave and oven, and a washer-dryer (no room to hang laundry in this place). Behind a slanted door is a tiny



# SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL

One developer has a big passion for renovating the tiniest homes. He speaks to *Hugh Graham*

shower room – the spray jets come out of the wall sideways, so they hit you in the face rather than the top of your head. The shower shares the space with the loo but it doesn't matter: it's all a wet room. When you're not using the wet room, its door can collapse into the wall to make the galley kitchen a bit bigger.

Upstairs is the 14ft x 9ft bedroom. Swailes has installed a Murphy bed concealed behind handsome walnut panelling. A wooden window seat hides storage as do timber stairs up to the roof. In total, the house has nine storage drawers and a wardrobe. Swailes had to seek planning permission to create a roof terrace with black metal railings as this is a conservation area. To add greenery, he's planted box hedges around

the perimeter; his builder, Norbert Kozma, has fixed up an irrigation system.

Swailes, who cashed in a company pension to buy the house, estimates he's spent up to £400,000 doing it up. At one point, he considered letting it on Airbnb but it's too irresistible a prospect not to sell such a newsworthy house. When it was on the market the first time, Ed McCulloch, the estate agent involved with the sale, was interviewed by TV shows from Germany to South Korea. During the build, passers-by were constantly peeking in the door.

McCulloch, a consultant with Harding Green estate agents, who are handling the current sale, says the renovation has added value, as has the roof terrace – a must-have since Covid. Is £3,444



**“The first impression is bachelor pad meets Lilliputian nightclub**

**Left: Robin Swailes outside his latest project, the smallest house in Chelsea. From above: the bedroom has a concealed Murphy bed; the angular dog-leg staircase takes up as little space as possible; the wet room is next to the kitchen**



per sq ft justified? Henry Sherwood, the buying agent, says the average in this area is £2,500 per sq ft, unless it's a "standout house". McCulloch says it is. "The pounds per sq ft is higher than what you'd be expecting to pay around here but that's because of the uniqueness of it. This is not your standard flat in Swan Court or Cranmer Court. It's effectively a one-bedroom house but you don't have the outgoings of ground rent or service charge. It's your own freehold. In a normal valuation, you look at sold prices of maybe half a dozen similar homes on the street. In a situation like this, there's nothing to compare it to."

Swailes thinks tiny houses have cachet. When he sold the smallest two-bedroom house in Oxford, the £937 sq ft selling price was well above the local average of £600 per sq ft (he took the other small house off the market and lets it on booking.com).

He'd better hope that

buyers are as fascinated by small things as he is, although it probably doesn't hold the record as London's smallest house (there's one at No 10 Hyde Park Place on Bayswater Road that is 75 sq ft, and another in Islington that is 188 sq ft). However, there's no doubt it's London's fanciest small house. "If you look at appliances, a Miele would be a 10/10," Swailes says. "I've made this like a Miele. I'm really, really pleased."

For property plebs, it's hard to imagine anyone forking out more than £1.2 million for a 290 sq ft house but this is prime central London. Pieds-à-terre are popular post-Covid as country converts return to the office. And the novelty factor is huge: it would be tempting for an investor who will put it on Airbnb as an adorable party pad or a super-rich collector who wants a folly in their portfolio. Small is beautiful.

hardinggreen.com



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Home

25

Velvet cushions in colours from powder pink to navy; £12, johnlewis.com

UNDER £25 PAYDAY TREATS

▲ Holger battery-powered LED lamp, £12.50, jysk.co.uk


Lift your space – and your spirits – with these thrifty interiors pick-me-ups, from £3

W

hen belt-tightening begins, small indulgences are everything. Cross cheap treats off the shopping list at your peril because pick-me-ups for the interior, from a bunch of Tesco chrysanthemums to a Matalan fluted glass vase, can make the outside world seem cheerier. The act of prettifying our rooms with inexpensive accessories is an expression of optimism that kindles contentment. The AW22 home collections second that

KATRINA BURROUGHS

@Kat\_Burroughs



emotion, offering plenty to buy from under £2 to £25. (That's the price of an average basket of goods at Lidl, or the cost of a round of drinks, if you don't have many friends.) There are some proper copper-bottomed bargains to be had this season: the H&M cushion that looks like one ten times the cost; Habitat's "faux moh" throw; the brass-framed looking glass

at Urban Outfitters. These are a far cry from fast fashion, despite their accessible price tags, and will give long-term pleasure in return for a few pounds' outlay. What we have learnt from the past couple of years is that our homes can support us through tough times. Along with sunshine, social contact and exercise, the act of homemaking, puttering at DIY tasks and curating bric-a-brac on the mantelpiece, lifts the spirits. So think of our shopping list of 25 items under £25 as a prescription for your domestic health and wellbeing. Santé.



▲ Add some colour with Ikea's Strimmig range. Pink plates cost £3, [ikea.com](https://www.ikea.com)



Glass vase, 16cm high, £15, [matalan.co.uk](https://www.matalan.co.uk)



◀ Konstfull vase, £13, is from a series of accessories designed for Ikea by Ilse Crawford, [ikea.com](https://www.ikea.com)

► Krösamos lidded jars from £3, [ikea.com](https://www.ikea.com).



◀ Fancy some bubbles? JYSK's effervescent Kasper glass vase, 24cm high; £15, reduced from £18.99, [jysk.co.uk](https://www.jysk.co.uk)

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▲ Barker and Stonehouse's Emerald low tier vase; £16, [barkerandstonehouse.co.uk](http://barkerandstonehouse.co.uk)



▲ Habitat Velvet Carved Geo Cushion; £16, [habitat.co.uk](http://habitat.co.uk)

▲ Oliver Bonas's Home welcome mat; £19.50, [oliverbonas.com](http://oliverbonas.com)



Faux moh. Habitat's "mohair" block pattern throw has a luxury feel, but you can clean it in the washing machine; £18, [habitat.co.uk](http://habitat.co.uk)



▲ Henry Holland x Freemans candle holder; £12, [freemans.com](http://freemans.com)

▼ Kaleidoscopic cushions, £17.99, [hm.com](http://hm.com)



▲ Chunky knit stool from Homebase; £15, [homebase.co.uk](http://homebase.co.uk)

► Fringed jute bedside rug reduced from £32 to £24, [laredoute.co.uk](http://laredoute.co.uk)



Recycled glass vase, in an agreeable wobbly shape, 18cm high; £10, [dunelm.com](http://dunelm.com)



▲ Impulse buy anyone? Matalan candle holders; £9, [matalan.co.uk](http://matalan.co.uk)



► Hand-painted glazed stoneware Elin plates from £14, [anthropologie.com](http://anthropologie.com)



◀ Oval mirror 30cm wide; £13, [urbanoutfitters.com](http://urbanoutfitters.com)



▲ Children's stools for £24.99, [hm.com](http://hm.com)

► Classic check cotton/linen napkins; two for £15.99, [zarahome.com](http://zarahome.com)

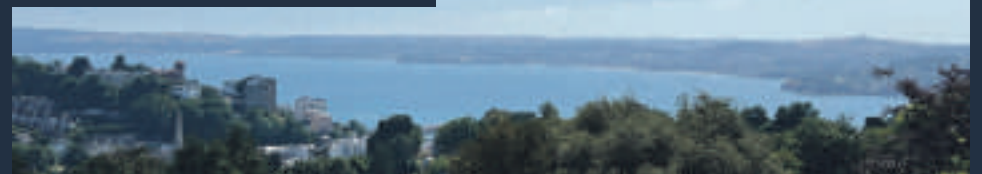


▲ Leckford stoneware jug, £12 for 560ml jug, [johnlewis.com](http://johnlewis.com)



▲ In store only and selling fast, Primark's wavy candles cost £1.50 for two, [primark.com](http://primark.com)

## Ideal holiday let investment



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Home

From Henry II's 12th-century incursion to the more recent invasion of middle England homebuyers, there's something about the stunning river valleys and bastide towns of southwest France that we can't resist.

"If you want variety – and that can encompass architecture, food, landscape, wine and climate – it offers endless possibilities," says Julie Savill from Beaux Villages Immobilier.

The comparative value for money is appealing, too, attracting younger buyers than Mediterranean hotspots. In its annual *Prime France Report*, the property consultancy Knight Frank notes that "young families are increasing in number, attracted by the lifestyle and ever-improving accessibility". It said that the average age of a "prime buyer in the region is lower than before the pandemic".

Southwestern France offers great-value property across all price brackets and for all ages, a fact not lost on bargain-conscious Britons, who form the largest group of overseas homeowners. Younger people will find vibrant lifestyles in the bigger cities, such as Bordeaux and Biarritz, while families and those who are retired can enjoy a more traditional lifestyle but with access to lively market towns and medieval villages.

"Buyers often want space, scenery and privacy but proximity to a village or town with amenities," says Michael Baynes, the co-owner of Maxwell-Baynes, an affiliate of Christie's International Real Estate.

Those seeking to run a holiday accommodation business will welcome the fact that a steady stream of tourists arrives through international airports at Bordeaux, Bergerac, La Rochelle, Poitiers, Limoges, Brive and Biarritz and well-connected motorways.

"Southwest France is highly sought after by those looking for authentic

French country living in a landscape dominated by rolling hills, perched châteaux, sunflower fields and distant views to the Pyrenees," says Jack Harris from Knight Frank.

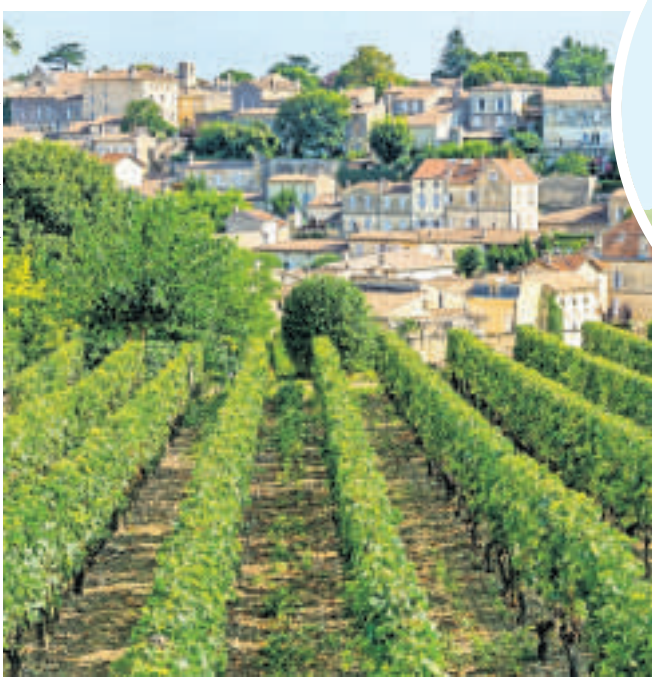
It's a huge area though, so where should you start your search?

**DORDOGNE**

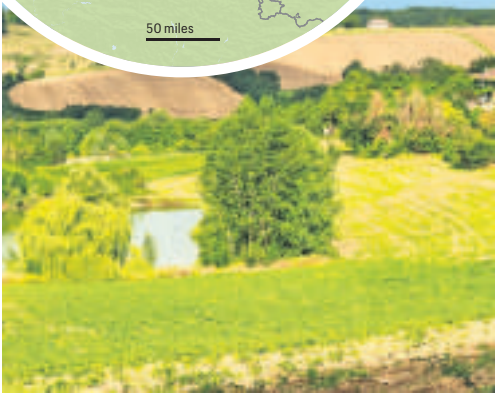
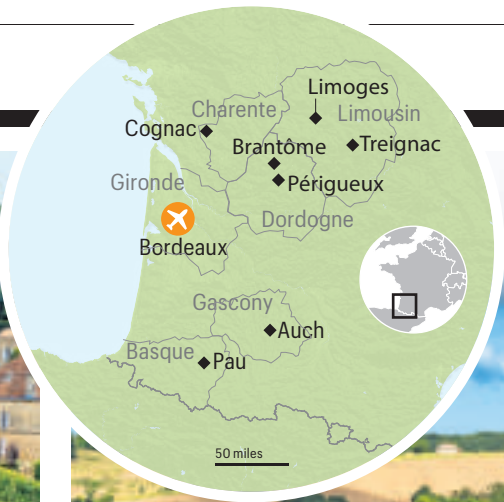
Offers a friendly expat community but plenty of space for those seeking a more authentic French experience, too. It's remarkably affordable, given its popularity, mainly because it's so rural. There are no large cities or industry but plenty of sought-after towns, such as Bergerac, Sarlat, Périgueux and Brantôme. With a reputed 1,001 châteaux, no fewer than ten plus beaux villages (France's most beautiful villages, including La Roque-Gageac, Monpazier and Domme), prehistoric caves and picturesque riverside scenery, it's quintessential southwest France and a great spot for a tourism business. It's all about quality of life here and that includes the gastronomy; fresh local products, in particular duck-based dishes and truffles, washed down with a bergerac wine. You can pick up a small village house from around €100,000 (£86,000) and a larger country home for €300,000-€400,000. **Average property price:** €1,370/sq m\*

**CHARENTE**

Hot on the heels of Dordogne, neighbouring Charente has become increasingly popular. Offering value for money and attractive Charentaise houses with symmetrical façades and pretty shutters, as well as charming villages and cognac vineyards, it has a lot going for it. Riverside locations such as Cognac, Jarnac, Confolens, Verteuil-sur-Charente and Aubeterre-sur-Dronne are in demand, while historic Angoulême is a city with year-round interest,



GUY OZERNIE/LARA SK/GETTY IMAGES CHARLES MILLER



including an international comic festival and classic-car race on the ramparts. Ruffec, in the north, offers particularly well-priced property – for example, a renovated one-bedroom cottage for just €82,700 (via TIC Immobilier). Neighbouring department Charente-Maritime has popular seaside resorts, the beautiful harbour town of La Rochelle, sandy beaches and the chic islands of Ré and Oléron.

"The renowned microclimate makes this the second sunniest area in France. However, the westerly winds mean less extreme temperatures," says Joanna Leggett from Leggett Immobilier. "Some British buyers are switching their searches away from the Mediterranean coast, arriving here with bigger budgets. That means larger properties with a pool

**From left to right: Saint-Émilion, near Bordeaux; the village of Lavardens, near Auch in Gascony; La Rochelle, on the Bay of Biscay. Below: Beaulieu-sur-Dordogne, Corrèze**

and a view are incredibly popular."

**Average property price:** €1,240/sq m

**LIMOUSIN**

Swallowed up by the supersized region of Nouvelle-Aquitaine, the old Limousin region (departments of Creuse, Corrèze and Haute-Vienne) has some of the cheapest property in France, in some of the prettiest settings. The Dordogne valley is particularly sought after, home to the plus beaux villages of Turenne, Curemonte and Collonges-la-Rouge. You could buy a four-bedroom house here built from the famous local red stone and with amazing views for €299,250 (with Celaur Immobilier). What was once a poor and remote area, which is still sparsely populated, is welcoming to holidaymakers and househunters, who come for the authentic French feel. Despite the rural character – think fields of russet red Limousin cattle – there are plenty of popular towns, including Treignac, Uzerche, Aubusson, and Brive, as well as the main city, Limoges. **Average property price:** €710/sq m (Creuse), €1,200/sq m (Correze), €1,290/sq m (Haute-Vienne)

Southwest France, home to Armagnac, the Pyrenees and foie gras, offers an affordable, more tranquil alternative to hotspots on the Med – buy in from under €100,000. By Karen Tait



ATLANTIC DREAMS





### GASCONY

Little changed for centuries, the ancient province of Gascony stretches from the Atlantic to the Pyrenees, straddling the regions of Nouvelle-Aquitaine and Occitanie, and has some of the least-populated land in France. That said, the rolling sunflower fields are punctuated by vibrant and sought-after towns, such as Auch and Condom, offering a unique mix of sleepy backwater and international attractions, including the Marciac Jazz Festival. It's also heaven for gastronomes, with free-range poultry and foie gras a speciality. Armagnac is the local tipple. Then there are substantial Gascon farmhouses built from mellow limestone with terracotta-tiled roofs and far-reaching views – expect to pay about €500,000 for a good example.

“Properties in the foothills are selling well as they give easy access to skiing in winter and hiking/biking the rest of the year,” says Leggett. “The land of d’Artagnan is seeing a younger buyer who is looking for a bargain. Ease of access to the coast, mountains and lively cities like Bordeaux and Bayonne is a huge draw.”  
**Average property price:** €1,380/sq m

“**Families are increasing in number, attracted by the lifestyle, and the average age of a prime buyer in the region is lower than before the pandemic**”

### GIRONDE, BORDEAUX AND SURROUNDS

Home to the regional capital Bordeaux, a Unesco-listed city with a rich heritage and modern outlook – as well as the acclaimed bordeaux and médoc vineyards, the wine town Saint-Émilion and luxury coastal hotpots like Arcachon and Cap Ferret – Gironde is not surprisingly the most expensive part of southwest France. The Gironde estuary is a birdwatcher’s and seafood-eater’s paradise, the perfect antidote to bustling Bordeaux. City dwellers flock to the elegant seaside resorts at the weekend. Just south of Arcachon, Europe’s highest sand dune, the Dune du Pilat, marks the start of the Côte d’Argent, France’s longest beach, backed by an enormous pine forest. Popular surfing resorts like Lacanau are complemented by huge freshwater lagoons. The Silver Coast merges into the Landes department, which flies under the radar of many buyers. Those who do venture here will find cheaper property than in Gironde and a lively summer scene, but be prepared for quiet winters.  
**Average property price:** €3,440 /sq m (Gironde), €2,430/sq m (Landes)

### BASQUE COUNTRY

With its eclectic mix of old-money Biarritz, hip young surfing scene, and traditional rural communities inland, this most southwestern corner of France has a character all of its own. The combination of sea and mountains is appealing, with both beach and ski resorts. The Pyrenees National Park is an adventure playground, with endless hiking trails and majestic natural sites, such as the Cirque de Gavarnie. On the border with Spain, there’s a distinct Spanish and Basque flavour to the food (especially the fiery Espelette peppers), language and culture. The departmental capital, Pau, has Belle Époque architecture and an Anglo heritage – like Biarritz, it was popular with wealthy British travellers in the 19th century – while Bayonne has typical Basque architecture, with red-painted half-timbered houses. Popular coastal resorts include Saint-Jean-de-Luz and Hendaye, while inland you’ll find spa towns like Eaux-Bonnes as well as pretty towns such as Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port.  
**Average property price:** €2,630/sq m (Pyrénées-Atlantiques)  
*\*Source: Notaires de France*



€527,000

### CHARENTE

This three-bedroom house, which was a former distillery, comes with a large garden, swimming pool and stables near Jarnac near Cognac. **sextantfrance.fr**



€455,000

### DORDOGNE

Just a 15-minute walk from the village of Cenac-et-Saint-Julien and its river, this butter-yellow house has a garden with fruit trees and a pool. **beauxvillages.com**



€528,000

### DORDOGNE

A charming stone house with bright blue shutters in Les Eyzies-de-Tayac-Sireuil. It comes with two detached gîtes and eight bedrooms. **frenchestateagents.com**



€349,000

### CHARENTE-MARITIME

A short drive from the historic spa town of Jonzac and its castle, this three-bedroom stone cottage has a pool and half an acre. **beauxvillages.com**



Home



TIME AND SPACE THE WAY WE LIVE NOW  
GINO D'ACAMPO

The chef on having 69 cousins, living in a bank and why he loves Dublin

It was a big culture shock when I first moved to the UK, aged 17. If I wanted to buy a bottle of extra virgin olive oil, I had to go to the chemist. As for balsamic vinegar, you guys had no idea what it was. I used to think, oh my goodness, where am I? The UK is close to Italy geographically and yet so far away culturally.

**Where did you grow up?**  
I spent my childhood in a house that was pretty much a farm in Torre del Greco, a town near Naples. We grew vegetables and there were always rabbits, chickens and dogs running around. My mother was one of nine daughters (I used to have 69 cousins) so there were always lots of people in the house. I was taught to cook by my mother, grandmothers and aunties. At the head of our family is Auntie Clara. She's 87 and as formidable as ever – our very own Don Corleone. She has been like a second mum to me. She is famous for her doughnuts made with potatoes, but she refuses to reveal her recipe.

**Where's home?**  
Hoddesdon in Hertfordshire. We moved here eight years ago because my boys' school [he has two sons and a daughter] is five minutes away. Our house is right on the high street; we are the only residential property. I used to get asked for selfies but the excitement has died down now. We



Above: Gino D'Acampo with his mother, Alba. Below: Torre del Greco, a town near Naples, where he grew up



live in a Georgian house, built in 1820, with high ceilings and lots of period features. It used to be a bank so we have an old safe in the basement, which is far too heavy to move. The house has 11 bedrooms, six bathrooms and a beautiful back garden. We've furnished it traditionally but with a modern twist.

**Describe your kitchen.**

My wife, Jessica, designed it but I told her where I wanted all the main appliances. The kitchen units are cream with black granite worktops. It's a very comfortable space to work in. The most essential item in any kitchen is a gas cooker. I've tried induction hobs, but you can't regulate the heat as well.

**Do you have a second home?**

I have a villa in Sardinia. I divide my year into two halves. My six months in the UK are mainly when I work, whether it's presenting TV shows such as my cookery slot on *This Morning*, writing cookbooks or looking after my eight restaurants. I'm also one of the biggest importers of Italian foodstuffs to the UK. When I'm in Italy, my life is more relaxed. My villa is in the mountains, although I'm only 20 minutes from the sea. We bought it in 2012. We are surrounded by hills and trees. The views are spectacular. It's the only place where I can really switch off. I can hear the silence, which I certainly can't do in London.

**How have you decorated your home in Sardinia?**

It's as Italian as you can get, with lots of Travertine tiles. There are ten bedrooms, eight bathrooms, kitchens inside and outside, a TV area and a games room. We also have an outside swimming pool, a tennis court and a lake. It's actually too big. I like to maintain my homes to a high standard and this property requires a lot of maintenance. I'm currently building a stable because I want to breed Friesian horses.

**How do you relax?**

I collect classic cars and motorbikes. My latest purchase is an old Ferrari Testarossa, the car that Don Johnson drove in *Miami Vice*. I also own a custom-made military boat. They are usually built for the US Marines.

**Where else would you like to live?**

I would love to own a property in Dublin. Dubliners are cool guys. They love to party, they are respectful, funny and family orientated. They are like Italians. Dublin is beautiful. I love being there.

Interview by Angela Wintle

*Gino's Italy: Like Mamma Used to Make* is published by Bloomsbury at £25

HOME HELP

SHOULD I BUY A LISTED HOME ALTERED WITHOUT PLANNING PERMISSION?

I am considering putting in an offer on a grade II\* listed property in Suffolk but the owners have replaced some of the old windows with double-glazed UPVC units. They are black PVC with a grain to make it look like wood. From the outside you would not notice the difference between the new and old windows. They installed them without permission. We understand they have an indemnity for the windows. How might this affect me if I buy the property? The double glazing is certain to be noticed during the conveyancing. We do not want to spend money on solicitors and searches if it causes a problem later on. Also, we may add an extension so it is bound to be picked up when the conservation officer visits. **Andrew Horn**

You are right to address this before incurring significant time or costs. The good news is that criminal liability only attaches to the party who carried out or is responsible for the works (here the seller or their contractor), not to subsequent owners (unless you fail to comply with an enforcement notice).

Enforcement action by the local authority is not time limited, however, and would therefore bind future owners. So if the local authority is made aware of the breach of

listed building control/lack of consent for the windows, then they can require them to be replaced.

The seller is either offering a personal indemnity, ie a promise to pay for the costs of any such enforcement action if taken; or more likely they mean an indemnity insurance policy, for which a one-off premium is payable. This policy would cover the costs of any such enforcement action. The downside is that your approach to the local authority for consent for further works could invalidate the cover as it may draw their attention to the breach. However, you may be able to obtain a policy that permits obtaining consent for future works.

Alternatively you could obtain costings for replacement windows and negotiate with the seller to hold a retention for this sum from the purchase monies, unless and until indemnity insurance is possible. The final solution would be to simply negotiate on price to agree a reduction to cover the cost of replacing the windows.

If you can reach an agreement on this issue, I would nonetheless recommend that you instruct a decent surveyor to check for any other potential breaches of listed building control. The seller may well have carried out other alterations without permissions.

Laura Conduit, partner, Farrer & Co

Send questions to [homehelp@sunday-times.co.uk](mailto:homehelp@sunday-times.co.uk). Advice given without responsibility

READERS' CLINIC

HOW DO I GET RID OF FLIES FROM MY GARDEN WASTE BIN?

If they're little flies, ignore them; they are helping to compost the waste. If they are big bluebottles, then someone is guilty of putting food scraps in the bin.

**Geraldine Blake, Worthing**

Ensure waste fruit is not deposited in the garden bin (only in the compost). Spray a weak solution of bleach and water around the lid. Adjust the strength of the bleach as necessary.

**Dennis Wong**

Add berries and sprigs from an elderberry bush to the waste. **kemidgley**



When the bin is empty, soak it in distilled vinegar. **omgee**

Try a Redtop fly trap. **Natalie**

FUTURE QUESTIONS

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**Freddy56 ★★★★★**

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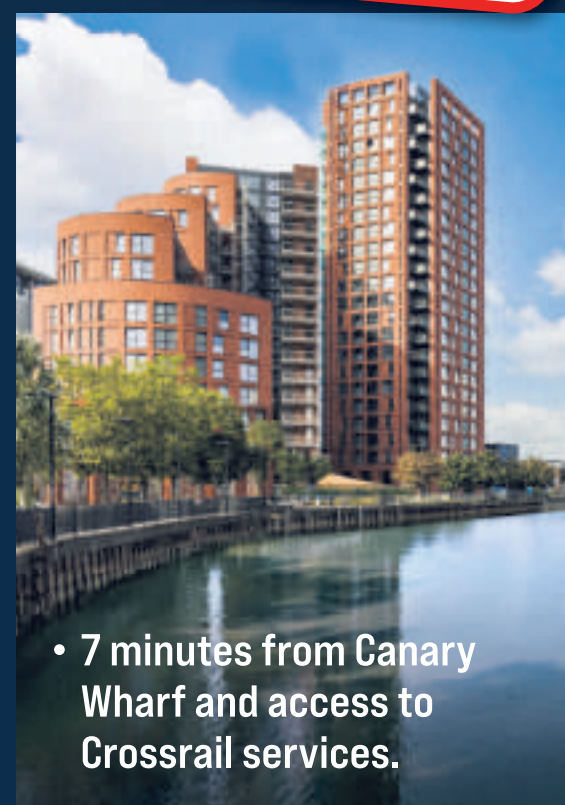
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Autumn's cheapest-ever holidays **5** Easy-breezy Caribbean **12** Fairytale Tuscany **25**

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# HOW TO BEAT FARE RIP-OFFS AT HALF-TERM

**CHRIS HASLAM**



Chief Travel Writer

**A**ll it took was £130 billion to – momentarily – lift our spirits and put a flicker of hope at the end of winter's dark tunnel. Think back to Thursday and the announcement that energy bills will be capped at £2,500 for two years. It meant families could breathe a sigh of relief and get back to making the plans to rebuild our economy and become the modern, brilliant Britain we all know we can be.

So “take action this day”, as our new PM would have it, to book a half-term break. For most of us half-term begins in six weeks, on October 22, and normally booking now might have been too late.

But 2022 is different. Worries over the cost of living, energy prices, incompetent airports and the rising price of travel have held thousands back from booking. But renewed confidence in the future will prompt a gold rush – and while there are deals available, some families will pay more than they expected.

Out of a dozen holidays featured in our half-term guide for autumn 2020, all but one have seen significant price rises in 2022, ranging from a cottage in the Lake District – up from £826 to £1,146 – and a hotel in St Ives where room rates are up £30 per night, to a Sicilian villa that's leapt from £2,250 per week to £3,050 and a £600pp leap for a Seychelles break.

Some of that is down to profiteering on the back of perceived demand, but in the case of overseas holidays it's the cost of flying that's breaking the bank.

Last week the pound crashed to its lowest level against the dollar for 37 years. At the same time the price of jet fuel has soared, with the cost of a barrel close to double what it was in September 2017. Russia used to be a leading supplier of distillates such as Jet A-1, and with world reserves at record lows, fares could reach record highs, their ascent accelerated by demand that still exceeds supply on thousands of routes.

So the best-value option for an overseas holiday will always be with a tour operator running its own flights or with charter allocation, such as easyJet Holidays, Jet2, Inghams, Sunvil, Tui or Virgin Holidays. So-called FIT, or fully independent traveller, bookings, where the agent or operator finds a scheduled flight to match your departure dates, will in most cases be much more expensive – especially if you're heading to half-term favourites such

as the Canaries, where flights on October 22 now start at £725 return.

So where's the value this half-term? With the tourist pound worth as little as \$1.02, it's not in the US or the Caribbean. Mexico, though, is a steal for a long-haul break, with a week's all-inclusive in a suite at Tui's five-star Riu Palace Mexico in Playacar on offer from £1,074pp including flights – that's £141 less than the four-star Riu Paraiso in Lanzarote (tui.co.uk).

Other long-haul, flight-inclusive bargains include a week's B&B at the Kombo Beach Hotel in the Gambia for £899pp; a week's B&B at the Phuket Marriott Resort & Spa Merlin Beach in Thailand for £937pp based on a family of four with children under 12 (tropicals.co.uk); and seven nights' all-inclusive at the beachside Rixos Bab Al Bahr in Ras al-Khaimah – the eco alternative to Dubai – for £1,290pp (loveholidays.com). A week's B&B at the family-orientated Sun Siyam Iru Fushi in the Maldives is £1,900pp (bestatravel.co.uk), and if you're on the salary of an airport CEO and you're a fan of Joe Wicks, book half-term week at Soneva Jani in the Maldives, when the Essex dynamo will be running the gym (£6,434pp, half-board; inspiringtravel.co.uk).

Among the best active short-haul options are a guided family trip to Spain's Picos de Europa with Pura Aventura for £1,200pp, B&B, with flights (puraaventura.com); an eight-night family cycling holiday in Puglia for £1,495pp, half-board (flights extra; inntravel.co.uk); and a mule train across Morocco's Atlas Mountains from £495 per adult and £425 per child, including most meals (flights extra; familiesworldwide.co.uk). Flights to Italy and Morocco are very cheap right now.

For fly-and-flop breaks, a week's B&B at the Hotel Lenno on Lake Como (pictured) is £808pp (ingham.co.uk), and half-term at the five-star Salgados Dunas Suites in Praia dos Salgados in the Algarve is £624pp, B&B (tui.co.uk).

In the UK there's still availability at family hotels such as the recently refurbished Moonfleet Manor in Dorset (B&B family rooms from £430; luxuryfamilyhotels.co.uk) and Watgate Bay in Cornwall (B&B family rooms from £306; watgatebay.co.uk) – check its “last minute” page online.

Plenty of holiday homes are vacant too: for sea views the two-bedroom Coastguard Cottage in Mousehole is £996 for half-term week (classic.co.uk). Inland, a week's self-catering for four at Wheeldon Trees Farm in the Peak District National Park is £1,168 (premiercottages.co.uk).

Wherever you choose, don't dither – the prices you see now can only go up.

For more deals see our online version at [thetimes.co.uk](https://www.thetimes.co.uk/travel)

## BIG SHOT

### GIRL POWER

Nepalese children mark the annual Indra Jatra festival at the former royal palace in the Unesco-listed Durbar Square in Kathmandu. The eight-day festivities, which started on Friday, celebrate the end of the monsoon season with singing, dancing and giving thanks to Indra, the Hindu god of rain



## YOUR VIEWS

The best of this week's emails, posts and comments

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## Pack it up, pack it in...

### LETTER OF THE WEEK

My husband and I used to go on boating holidays on the Norfolk Broads (“The secret to self-catering success”, last week). We always took a decent kitchen knife, a tea towel, a jar of coffee and our Swiss Army and Leatherman knives. He also took a toolbox and would service the boat's engine (he was a former third engineer in the merchant navy) and splice the ropes properly. There was nothing we couldn't cope with on those holidays.

*H Forster, via thetimes.co.uk*

I am the queen of packing for self-catering breaks. I have a spreadsheet and never travel without my double-sided carving knife, scissors and grapefruit parer. Since Covid I also have a cleaning bag with antibac and a pack of J-Cloths, as well as an air freshener, essential food (teabags, olive oil, etc) and tools.

*Louise Buxton, Derbyshire*

A proper teapot and a selection of loose teas – and don't forget the china mug.

*Simon Riley, via thetimes.co.uk*

Weights, so we can work out – the 5kg doubles as a hammer for crab claws.

*A Thomson, via thetimes.co.uk*

My mother-in-law has packed a spare fridge for a big Christmas get-together. It is surprisingly practical, though – too often have we stayed in a cottage for eight with a fridge the size of a postage stamp.

*DH, via thetimes.co.uk*

My husband takes a portable espresso maker, even to Spain and Italy, as he wakes early and nowhere serves espresso at 5.30am. I take a Vanish stain remover bar for accidents with spag bol, wine, etc.

*Cordelia Campbell, via email*

### BUSMAN'S HOLIDAY

Having lived in Cornwall for 61 years I can say that buses are a great, stress-free way to see countryside and sea views (“Just the ticket”, last week). Driving here can be a nightmare of traffic jams and queuing for car parks. Apps and on-board USB charging points have transformed planning a trip. And, of course, if you are bus-pass age, travel is free.

*Christopher Smith, via thetimes.co.uk*

Nationally we are living through the greatest loss of bus services ever seen. In my Somerset town we lose our last bus from October 9. Three years ago we had three routes going through the town that people used to commute to Bristol.

*Mr C B, via thetimes.co.uk*

### ALL THE SINGLE LADIES

Nothing new under the sun! (“My solo holiday in honeymoon heaven”, last week). My dad died when my mum was in





COVER PHOTOGRAPH: LEE/ANONIKI/GETTY IMAGES; BIG SHOT: AMIT MACHAMASI/UMA/SHUTTERSTOCK

## POSTCARD FROM...

## LISBON

The masks are off and tourists are back in force, but the best spots are beyond the centre, says *Celia Pedroso*

It's still summer in the city, and while children prepare to go back to school with new bags and books, parents worry about the rising inflation rate and high cost of living that is suffocating many families. However, to visitors, Lisbon looks busier than ever – the jammed city centre has queues for pasteis de nata as long as those for the old-fashioned No 28 tram, just like in the pre-pandemic days. There is more traffic than usual at this time of the year too, especially on the riverfront, where the controversial works for the new underground circular line partly block Avenida 24 de Julho.

The mask mandate on public transport was lifted late last month and there are crowds on the streets of Bairro Alto and Cais do Sodre until the wee hours again. Pink Street remains as packed as a tin of sardines at Sol e Pesca, a tinned fish bar in the famed pedestrianised area.

There's a feeling that the city is even busier than in 2019, with locals and tourists eager to party the night away. Restaurant and bar owners expected a busy summer, but perhaps not one that would be so overwhelming. Staff are hard to recruit in Lisbon and the hospitality sector is hampered by a lack of personnel, as it is in many other cities.

Unlike before the pandemic, it's difficult to find a table at a restaurant if you don't book, and concerts and festivals are sold out months in advance. But then, in some shops and restaurants away from the city centre, you start to see fewer customers – inflation is hitting hard on many fronts and people are worried about their energy bills.

While the balmy September evenings entice us to enjoy long dinners on riverfront terraces, I can't help feeling nostalgic for a Lisbon that is disappearing, especially in the beautiful Baixa and Chiado areas – the neighbourhood *tascas*, with their comfort food and convivial, no-frills atmosphere; the local *pastelarias*, offering an espresso

with a home-baked pastry; the simplicity of a *prego* steak sandwich, seasoned with sea salt and garlic. These are being pushed out of the centre by modern cafés, with their avocado on toast, super-expensive coffee and English-language menus, or pretentious joints trying to pass dishes off as traditional, such as the chain selling cod cakes filled with cheese – not to mention the tacky souvenir shops that swamp downtown Baixa or the monotony of bakeries that sell only pasteis de nata when we have so many different and delicious pastries.

All of this was already being felt in 2019, but the pandemic made it screamingly clear, as old businesses closed or switched their focus to tourists.

So I take my nostalgia elsewhere. I work in the city but live on the South Bank, so I have to commute, crossing the Tagus to Cacilhas or Trafaria on my way home. Once I'm there it is business as usual: an espresso is 70 cents, a latte is still called a *galao* and toast is just a slice of bread swimming in butter.

Trafaria is a small village where good fish restaurants abound (I'm partial to Casa Ideal in the backstreets). I had my vaccine booster in that area this year, and while I waited for the jab I spotted a biography of Bulhao Pato abandoned on a table. He was a writer, politician and gourmand whose love of a good meal inspired a restaurant in Baixa to create an amazing dish of clams, coriander, garlic and olive oil. So as others in the waiting room chattered about Covid and the related restrictions, I was dreaming of that dish, and of returning to places such as Pinoquio in central Lisbon where the clams are still steamed in a coffee pot.

It's true, not everything has changed in Baixa – there's a traditional department store with a rooftop terrace (Pollux), a great cheese and ham shop where charcuterie is sliced in a century-old machine (Manteigaria Silva) and restaurants where dishes are prepared in time-honoured fashion – here's hoping they last.



**Pink Street remains as packed as a tin of sardines**

**Saint George's Castle looks over Lisbon and the Tagus. Above, alfresco dining in Bairro Alto**

her seventies. They had been intrepid travellers, and Mum announced that she would carry on. Her first solo trip was to Hawaii, which Dad never fancied. Over the years she also went to China, India, Vietnam and Uzbekistan – her last solo trip, aged 86. She made lots of new friends and enjoyed life to the full.

*FBard, via thetimes.co.uk*

I've travelled solo since the 1980s and didn't realise that it was still considered brave or different. My mum did the same from her forties, including backpacking in India, Afghanistan and Syria.

*Mary, via thetimes.co.uk*

Next weekend I'm off to Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan for a month on my own. I love solo travel, and it's neither brave nor lonely.

*Mrs C, via thetimes.co.uk*

I had a week alone this summer, walking from hut to hut in the Austrian mountains. Most nights I was the only English speaker, and the best evenings were spent sharing a table with Austrian, German and Dutch people, drinking beer and discussing mountains and politics.

*Jane Ascroft, via thetimes.co.uk*

## FLIGHT CLUB

Concorde was an amazing engineering achievement at a time when slide rules were more common than computers ("Top Flight", last week).

*David Tower, via thetimes.co.uk*

I remember being on the M25 when three Concorde were returning to Heathrow on their final flight – a truly epic sight that stopped the traffic. Mike Bannister undersells the evening flight to New York; as you hurtled west the sunset reversed – not many have seen that.

*Scribe17, via thetimes.co.uk*

My best friend's brother saved really hard to fly one way on Concorde and return on a regular plane. We were all young, free and single at the time, and couldn't understand why he would waste good beer money. We get it now though.

*Peter Holding, via thetimes.co.uk*

## DERRY GOOD

As a "wee English fella" who regularly travelled to Derry/Londonderry ("Big Weekend", last week) for work about 15 years ago, then married a Northern Irish resident and now has annual holidays to the North Antrim coast, I always enjoy our day trips by train to the city. These are partly for the scenery as you go west of the River Bann, but also to see how much it has changed for the better – the city still has its problems, but the worst thing that people could do is stay away and not support the great enterprises popping up.

*Olly Benson, via thetimes.co.uk*

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Boston	<b>£411<sup>#</sup></b>	<b>£1,767<sup>#</sup></b>	Bangkok	<b>£581<sup>◊</sup></b>	<b>£2,082<sup>#</sup></b>	Sydney	<b>£900<sup>#</sup></b>	<b>£3,634<sup>◊</sup></b>
Cancun	<b>£446<sup>#</sup></b>	<b>£1,703<sup>◊</sup></b>	Singapore	<b>£632<sup>†</sup></b>	<b>£3,100<sup>†</sup></b>	Perth	<b>£986<sup>#</sup></b>	<b>£3,796<sup>^</sup></b>
Dubai	<b>£508<sup>†</sup></b>	<b>£1,849<sup>†</sup></b>	Phuket	<b>£633<sup>◊</sup></b>	<b>£1,998<sup>◊</sup></b>	Auckland	<b>£1,010<sup>#</sup></b>	<b>£3,848<sup>#</sup></b>

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**LET'S GO**



**A**s high season drifts into the haze, autumn has traditionally been the smart time to slip overseas for a week or two. The kids are back at school, the temperatures have become bearable and shoulder-season rates apply, so it's quiet, it's warm and, above all, it's a bit cheaper. This autumn, though, could be one of the cheapest yet.

No one expected that to be the case. The travel industry is based on confidence rather than necessity, and as such it's vulnerable to shocks – and there are plenty to choose from. There's a sterling crisis, with the pound falling against nine out of ten of the major holiday currencies in the year to date. There's an energy crisis, a cost of living crisis, and a labour crisis, not to mention a war in Europe, money worries at home, airport mismanagement and fears of a resurgence of Covid amid a tough flu season.

That's given the public the jitters – how can you justify an autumn break when you're worrying about keeping the lights on? – and has spread alarm within an industry that was banking on a resurgence of travel based on the joyous release of pent-up demand.

Back in summer 2021, when tour operators were signing forward contracts for airline seats and hotel rooms, how could they have foreseen what was coming in 2022? "I'm like

# CHEAP COCKTAILS, FREE SUNSETS – AND NO NEED FOR CENTRAL HEATING

Turkish beaches for £11 a day? The world might be in crisis, but there's never been a better time to go away, says *Chris Haslam* – you might even save money

an umbrella salesman who's just been through two years of drought," said one travel company CEO. "The forecast for 2022 was a year-long monsoon so I filled my warehouses with umbrellas. But the rains never came, so I'm selling my stock at cost just to get my money back."

"We're all worried about consumer confidence, so in order to encourage bookings

we will offer loss leaders and there will be discounts," said Julia Lo Bue-Said at Advantage Travel Partnership.

"It's as bad for airlines and hotels as it is for travel agents, and no one in Europe or beyond is immune to the pressures we're facing here. In many ways it's worse for the travel industry now than it was during the pandemic."

There are plenty of good

arguments for hibernation this winter. But there are many more to run away – not least because flying south could be cheaper than staying at home. How about Turkish sunshine for £11.25 a day? EasyJet Holidays is offering 28 nights' B&B at the three-star Sun City Apartments in Antalya, Turkey – where you can find a pint of Efes for £1.20 and a large G&T for £2.40 – for £315pp departing on January 1. Or, departing on January 4, On The Beach has 28 nights' self-catering at the Muthu Clube Praia da Oura on the Algarve for £429pp – or £15.30 per day – and Tui has a month's half-board at the Bali Hotel &

Studios in Benalmadena on the Costa del Sol for £795pp – or £28 a day.

And if you ask your travel agent you could even find cut-price half-term breaks: Classic Package Holidays, which sells only through the trade, has a week at the four-star Paraiso de Albufeira Hotel on the Algarve for £370pp, departing on October 23.

In the Caribbean, I compared lead-in prices for flight-inclusive packages for ten of the hotels across Antigua, Barbados and St Lucia that I visited in 2020. For the coming season, for the same weeks, six were, on average, 11 per cent cheaper

**Indonesia, below, has some great deals for autumn getaways**

than they were two years ago.

"Destinations in the Far East such as Bali and Thailand have some incredible deals on offer," said Mark Godfrey at Premier Holidays. "You can save up to 50 per cent in some cases, but the downside is that airfares remain high."

That's because reduced frequencies have squeezed capacity and thus pushed up seat prices, but operators say increased demand for favourites such as Thailand, Vietnam and Indonesia in

**Continued on page 6 →**





# Travel Analysis

STEPHANE LAGONICO, MARCO BOTTIGELLI, M.M. SWEET, MATTEO COLOMBO/GETTY IMAGES; GUICHAOUA, DAVID LYONS /ALAMY



→ Continued from page 5  
2023 will bring more seats online and – possibly – make the Far East the bargain destination for 2023.

Globally, flight prices remain high, but in Europe airlines are throwing out offers in a fight for their share of a nervous winter market. Ryanair is offering returns to Palma for £25, Venice for £21, and Dublin for £18 in October. EasyJet can get you to Antalya and back in October for £75 and Lisbon from £42.

Data from Skyscanner shows some staggering drops from 2019 prices: Dubai down to £230 from £522; Antalya from £256 to £115; Tenerife from £240 to £17. Long-haul, Virgin has return fares to LA this month from £387, British Airways has January returns to Cancun for £325 and Orlando from £304, and Trailfinders has a round-the-world offer fare including San Francisco, LA, Sydney, Melbourne, Kuala Lumpur – with three nights in the Malaysian capital – and Singapore for £999pp.

But will cheap flights and cut-price hotels lure us into a cost of living trap when we land? According to the annual Post Office City Costs Barometer, which adds up the typical costs of a weekend break, the price of 48 hours in Europe’s most popular cities has gone up by 19 per cent since 2020. The cheapest of this year’s bunch are Athens and Lisbon, at a total of £207 and £218 respectively – beating the once-famously low-cost Krakow, Riga and Budapest.

In Turkey, where the pound has soared from 11 lira this time last year to 21 today, the huge increase in our buying power is offset by inflation at 81 per cent and retail price rises of 99 per cent, meaning you’ll feel as rich in Bodrum this year as you did last year.

The real pinch, though, will be felt in the US and in countries including the Caribbean nations and much

of sub-Saharan Africa, where the local currencies are pegged to the dollar, especially in terms of accommodation, transport, nightlife, dining, shopping and excursions.

How much will that hurt? Last November I spent \$1,500 on food, accommodation, petrol and bourbon on an eight-night trip to New York, Washington, San Francisco and LA. At an exchange rate of \$1.30 it cost me £1,153.

Since then, hotel prices have risen by 7 per cent, dining prices by 7.6 per cent, and the pound has crashed to its lowest against the dollar since spring 1985.

According to the US Bureau of Labor’s Consumer Price Index calculator, I would need \$1,598 to cover the same costs this autumn, which would cost me £1,426 at an exchange rate of £1.12.

So for cheap cocktails on tropical beaches, pick Mauritius over the dollar-shackled Maldives, or Mexico – especially the all-inclusive options – over the Caribbean. Closer to home, the safest bets for value are Greece, where Sunvil reports discounts of up to 40 per cent – and, later on, the Canaries for winter sun.

## HOW TO SAVE MONEY ABROAD

### 1 GET THE ALL-IN-ONE CARD

Debit and credit card fees for spending and withdrawals abroad can be absurdly high. But you can still use these cards – including earning any rewards you’d get with them – and avoid the fees by “loading” all your existing cards onto the Curve card. It looks and acts like an ordinary Mastercard, but is simply a “blank”, similar to Google Pay or Apple Wallet. You download the app, apply for the card then load all your

existing Mastercards and Visas onto it (it doesn’t work with Amex). Used abroad, it removes all your foreign-exchange fees and gives you the best exchange rate too. There is a premium card but the free card carries a limit of £500 spending and £200 withdrawals per month.

### 2 GET FEE-FREE CASH WITHDRAWALS ABROAD

If the £200 cash-withdrawal limit on the free version of the Curve card isn’t enough, you’ll want a different card so you can withdraw money from foreign ATMs with the best exchange rate and without paying commission

Greece, above left, Mexico, left and above, and Indonesia, below, offer good autumn value

withdrawals abroad for up to £200 each.

### 3 SORT YOUR TRAVEL INSURANCE IMMEDIATELY

If you’re likely to go on holiday three or more times a year, an annual policy is usually cheaper than a single-trip policy. The exception is if you have serious pre-existing medical conditions or are over 70, when it can often be cheaper to arrange single-trip policies. Try the leading specialist comparison site Medical Travel Compared, plus MoneySuperMarket, Compare the Market, GoCompare and Confused.com.

Crucially, take it out as soon as you book your holiday for the important “pre-trip” coverage these policies include. For an annual policy, that means you need to “start” the policy immediately as opposed to the first date of the trip, but for single-trip this cover starts the day you take out your policy.

### 4 BUY YOUR OWN CAR-HIRE INSURANCE

You get to the desk and they always try to upsell you their insanely expensive add-on insurance. Otherwise, they say, you’ll pay through the nose for the merest whisper of a scratch – which is true. Yet that top-up insurance is almost always overpriced.

There’s another, much cheaper way to get the same cover – for up to 75 per cent less. Simply arrange your own car-hire excess insurance from the UK with a separate insurance company. You can get single-trip cover, but if you hire cars three or more times a







“  
In Europe,  
airlines are  
fighting for  
their share  
of a nervous  
winter  
market

Antalya in Turkey,  
above right, has  
cheap flights and  
resorts despite  
soaring inflation



year, opt for an annual policy. Try comparison sites including Confused.com and TravelSupermarket.com.

5 THE FREEBIE YOU SHOULD NEVER FORGET

Even though we’re not in the EU any more, the UK is still part of a European-wide health-cover scheme. It used to be called Ehic, but now for

the UK, it’s Ghic.

It’s not a replacement for travel insurance, but it does offer you medical cover at the same rate as locals pay in many European countries – and this vital cover is free. In France, for example, with your Ghic card, if you need to go to hospital in an emergency, you’ll typically have 80 per cent of your stay

(sometimes 100 per cent) covered by the card. Without it, you could end up owing the hospital thousands of pounds for even a minor injury. Get your Ghic via nhs.uk – and beware of the many scam websites that try to make you think you have to pay for this. The application and the card are free.

Jill Starley-Grainger

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- Dine at Shore House restaurant, for local seafood and international cuisine



# SYDNEY-LONDON



With mini suites, yoga and wi-fi, the 21-hour Sydney-London flight will be the world's longest.

By John Arlidge

It's official. The longest commercial non-stop flight in the world has been cleared for take-off. It will be from Sydney to London with Qantas. QF1 will take 21 hours to cover the 10,978 miles, since it is against the prevailing winds. It will leave Sydney in the evening and arrive in London the next morning. With taxi, take-off and landing, passengers will spend the best part of a day on board. QF2, from London to Sydney, will leave before lunch and arrive in the late afternoon the next day after 20 hours.

Alan Joyce, the Qantas CEO, confirmed the services – and dozens more new non-stop flights to Australia from Europe, the US, Africa and South America – in an exclusive interview with *The Sunday Times*. The initiative, named Project Sunrise after the double sunrise passengers will see, marks the biggest leap forward for travellers on the

Kangaroo Route since 1947 when the Australian flag carrier first started flying from London to Sydney – a three-day journey that then required seven stops. “We’re defeating distance,” Joyce says.

Here’s everything you need to know about the new ultra-long-haul services that will begin in 2025.

## THE PLANE

Qantas will use the twin-engine Airbus A350-1000 ultra-long-range jet with an extra fuel tank to carry the thousands of litres of fuel needed. Joyce chose the Airbus jet over the rival Boeing 777-8X because it is lighter, which reduces fuel consumption. It will have four cabins. First class will comprise only six large enclosed suites, each with a seat, a separate bed and a wardrobe. That means an entire family could take the cabin creating “the best private jet experience in

the world”, says Joyce. He describes the 52 seats in business class as “like Emirates’ first class”: a mini suite with a sliding door for privacy. The premium economy cabin, which will have 40 seats with a 40-inch pitch (the measure of leg room), will be “a step up” from what Qantas offers at present, with more space per passenger and a “cradle seat” to aid sleep. The 140 economy seats will have a 33-inch seat pitch – less than the best economy seats on Emirates, which have 34 inches.

## THE PASSENGERS

Who will want to spend a day in a carbon-fibre tube slicing through the heavens? Rather a lot of people, it seems. Qantas’s London to Perth “straight shot” began in 2018, the first ultra-long-haul non-stop flight to Australia and the most popular service to the country. That’s despite it



## HOW THE BIG TRAVEL BEASTS ARE REDUCING THEIR CARBON FOOTPRINTS



If you ever suspected that paying a few quid to offset your flight’s carbon emissions was a dubious way to start a holiday with a clear conscience, you’re not alone.

Travel businesses are realising that waiting for trees to grow, or technology to be developed, to remove CO2 from the atmosphere is fanciful. Emissions, they’ve concluded, need to be reduced now – as much to appease clients as to mitigate global warming.

It’s a battle for survival on two fronts that until now has mainly been fought by small, impassioned tour operators at the adventurous fringes of travel. Corporate efforts such as picking up the odd bit of plastic have amounted to virtue-signalling tokenism.

But as a summer of fire, flood and drought comes to an end, and a few weeks before ministers gather at Cop27 in Sharm el-Sheikh to discuss how to slow climate change, household-name travel companies

are switching away from an emphasis on offsetting. Significantly, the travel giant Tui has announced a business-wide commitment to focus “on the reduction of emissions rather than offsetting them” – and part of that includes taking Tui trains rather than Tui planes.

Tui’s customers in the Netherlands have already been offered low-emission train travel this summer from Amsterdam and Utrecht to Copenhagen, Prague, Vienna, Venice, Milan and Florence. And from December 23, Dutch skiers will board Tui trains to the Austrian Alps.

Until 1993, the Hanover-based company ran trains from Hamburg and Dortmund to resorts in countries including Italy and Spain. Falling flight prices derailed them, but their reintroduction at package-holiday prices would contribute to a major reduction in emissions: fly from London to Nice and you’re responsible for 169kg of CO2. Take the train, and it’s 13kg. Milan from

Manchester? 283kg by plane; 51kg by train says ecopassenger.org.

And while you can’t yet start your holiday at Luton railway station, the incoming chief executive of Tui, Sebastian Ebel, said: “What is successful in one market, we can quickly roll out to others.”

The company’s aviation, cruise and hotel businesses emitted 7.3 million tonnes of CO2 in 2019. It aims to reduce this to net zero by 2050.

Turning the package holiday green also includes encouraging accommodation owners, excursion providers and other contractors to meet strict sustainability standards. In the near future, expect to be offered public transport rather than private transfers to the hotel, dining in locally owned restaurants rather than at hotel buffets, and kayaks for rent rather than jet skis.

From next year the Tui website will feature a sustainable option in its filters, allowing customers to choose hotels and excursions rated by emissions and commitment







# DOON NON-STOP



London to Perth,” says Joyce. If the evidence from the London to Perth service is anything to go by, more than half of passengers in business and first class will be leisure travellers.

## THE ROUTES

As well as London to and from Sydney and Melbourne direct, Qantas’s non-stop flights will soon link Sydney and Melbourne with New York, Paris, Frankfurt, Miami, Chicago, Cape Town and Sao Paulo. The existing ultra-long-haul non-stop services – London to Perth and the new Rome to Perth that launched in July – will continue, as will Dallas to Sydney.

## THE EXPERIENCE

The A350 is made of composite – tough plastic – which is denser than aluminium and does not corrode. That means the cabin is quieter and the air pressure is higher than on conventional jets: equivalent to 6,000ft altitude, rather than 8,000ft. The air is also less dry and fresher – it’s replaced every two to three minutes. The air temperature cools from 21C to 19C and the lights turn orange to help promote sleep. The cabin warms up again and the lights brighten with a blueish tinge when it’s time to wake up. Put all that together and, Joyce promises, you’ll kip more, your stomach and

**In 2025 you will be able to fly 10,978 miles non-stop from Sydney, left, to London, above**

costing 20 per cent more than going via Singapore, Hong Kong or Dubai (Qantas partners with Emirates). It is not just the appeal of shaving four hours off the journey time that makes non-stop services attractive. Post Covid, many passengers say they want to avoid stops in crowded hub airports, not simply to reduce their chance of picking up a new variant of the virus but also to avoid falling foul of travel restrictions that can change suddenly. “After the pandemic, we’ve seen a big rise in the number of people wanting to fly direct from

LEE SAN MAN, CIRCLE CREATIVE STUDIO, ASCENTYMEDIA, APOL BIRIS/GETTY IMAGES

to green standards. “Our customers expect us to deliver real reductions in emissions,” said Tui’s Christian Rapp. “It’s a sentiment we see across all markets but it’s greater in Germany, the Netherlands and the Nordic countries.”

Shout as loud as the Dutch, then, and holiday trains might soon depart from UK stations. According to research by easyJet Holidays, 65 per cent of customers say holiday

companies should be doing more to encourage sustainable travel. The operator has launched an “eco-certified” collection of 530 hotels – or 14 per cent of the total inventory – that meet the standards of the Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC), and is encouraging the remainder to be certified by 2025.

Pride of Britain Hotels is a consortium of 53 of the country’s finest properties that includes the

**Cross-Europe trains will reduce travellers’ carbon footprints – going by rail from Manchester to Milan, below, cuts emissions by more than 80 per cent**



Athenaeum in London and the Torridon in the Highlands. It has signed up to EarthCheck’s certification programme, which involves a 71-page application form.

Has the mainstream travel industry finally realised that greenwash and tokenism are no longer enough to persuade both the public and environmental, social and governance (ESG)-focused investors?

Tour operator Pura Aventura is a pioneer of sustainable travel and a role model for the industry since 1999. The chief executive, Tom Powers, said: “The notion of holiday trains heading to the Costas is phenomenal. This commitment to reducing emissions has the potential to be a turning point in travel. Sustainable aviation fuels won’t save the world, but they’ll help. Offsetting, direct air capture and emissions reductions, likewise, but we’re shuffling in the right direction. When a company the size of Tui shuffles, that’s a giant leap.”

**Chris Haslam**



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# Travel Future of flight

→ Continued from page 9

ankles won't explode and your face won't fall off.

### THE ENTERTAINMENT

New satellite technology will enable passengers to stream live entertainment directly to their laptops, phones or iPads, Joyce says. Such services are already available over land in many markets, notably the US and Australia, but not always over the sea. "The satellite coverage will be there both across the Indian Ocean and the Pacific and the wi-fi will be free in all cabins," Joyce says. First and business class passengers will have enough space to stretch in their suites. Premium economy and economy travellers will be able to use a small exercise and stretching area with yoga mats. "We've taken out 12 seats so people can exercise," says Joyce. There will be "hydration stations" in premium economy and economy. Alcohol consumption will be discouraged in all cabins. (It will be interesting to see how successful this is.)

### THE FUEL

The A350 is 25 per cent more fuel-efficient than the four-engine Boeing 747s that Qantas formerly used on the Kangaroo route. Even though aircraft on the direct flights have to carry more fuel from take-off – and some of that is burnt because of the weight of the fuel needed later in the flight – Joyce claims the

JAMES D. MORGAN/GETTY IMAGES



How the first-class cabins will look, left; Alan Joyce, CEO of Qantas, above



### THE ULTRA-LONG-HAUL SURVIVAL STRATEGY

I've flown the longest passenger flight in history: a 20-hour Qantas test flight non-stop from London to Sydney in 2019, plus Singapore to New York. Here's how to manage it. Before setting off, try to nudge your body clock towards the time zone you're heading to – painful but worth it. It's helpful to exercise more and hydrate more than usual in the days before you leave. Before boarding, take a vitamin C tablet to boost the immune system. Sleep is essential. Take pyjamas and slippers. For dinner, eat a simple protein and carbohydrate meal – say, chicken with rice – to help to release hormones that make you drowsy. If melatonin tablets work for you, take a couple with dinner. Buy one of those "no pressure" foam eye masks so you can blink when wearing it. Hearos ear plugs block out much more noise than the free ear plugs airlines give you. When you wake up, order the spiciest dish you can find on the menu – or add Tabasco from the drinks trolley to your omelette – because spice stimulates the metabolism. After landing, swim, run or walk in the fresh air for as long as you can and stay up until sunset whatever time you land. No cat-napping.

“Including a large economy-class cabin is a commercial gamble

services will use 2 per cent less fuel overall than those with a stopover because landing, taxiing and taking off are energy-hungry. Environmentalists and rival carriers, notably Emirates, dispute this figure. Joyce promises that up to 30 per cent of the fuel on the non-stop flights will be sustainable aviation fuel, the highest

proportion any carrier will use on any long-haul route. The total amount of carbon emitted during the non-stop flights will be offset with high-quality, independently audited forestry and other green projects in Australia. "We have the largest offset programme of any airline in the world and are trying to create the gold standard in offsets," Joyce says. Critics say offsetting is little more than a gesture (see panel on page 9) – and also question whether the new non-stop flights are consistent with Qantas's plan to reach net zero emissions by 2050.

### THE CONCERNS

Modern aircraft are highly reliable and there are few

fears about the performance of the Airbus A350. Qantas will, however, be keeping a close eye on how pilots (up to five on each non-stop service) and crew (about 15) will perform. Joyce's decision to include a large economy-class cabin is a commercial gamble. Singapore Airlines scrapped economy on its 19-hour non-stop flight from its home to New York – it reckoned couples would get divorced in mid-air if they were forced to sit cheek to cheek for that long – so there are only business and premium economy seats on that route. On Qantas's London-Perth flights, economy is usually full – but that flight is four hours shorter than Sydney-London.

### THE PRICES

To be announced in 2024. London-Perth returns currently start at £1,311.

### THE NEIGHBOURS

Qantas's new jets have ultra-long-haul competition from Air New Zealand, which will soon begin non-stop services between Auckland and New York as well as Auckland and Chicago – that will take 17 hours. The Kiwi carrier will let economy and premium-economy travellers book four-hour stretches in flat beds in its Skynest – a room with six bunk beds at the back of its Boeing 787 Dreamliner. Prices will be released soon but the airline reckons one in ten economy-class passengers will pay for some quality shut-eye.

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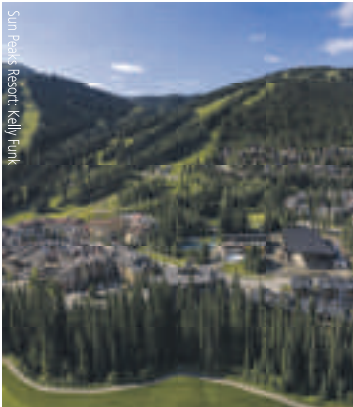
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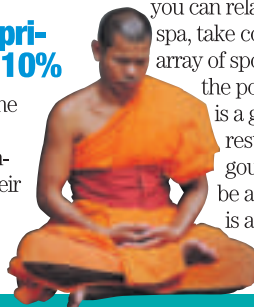
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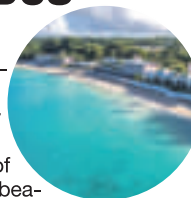
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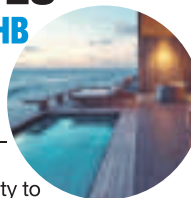


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# Travel CARIBBEAN FOCUS

I was born on Jamaica, a small island that's big in spirit. When my parents moved to south London, they couldn't bring all the children at once, so I was the last to be sent to join them when I was 11 years old. This meant I spent a lot of time in Jamaica with my grandmother, who raised me and taught me how to cook.

I can attribute much of my success to her. But I can also attribute a lot of it to the carnival scene here in the UK, my adopted home. The late 1970s coincided with my teenage years and I would play St Pauls Carnival in Bristol as part of Sir Coxson's Outernational Sound System. In fact, many shops and takeaways around Stapleton Road, Clifton and St Nicholas Market (seek out Jenny Reid's stall, Caribbean Wrap, at the latter; [caribbeanwrap2.co.uk](http://caribbeanwrap2.co.uk)) threw their support behind me.

The annual Notting Hill Carnival in west London is, of course, one of the best Caribbean parties this side of the Atlantic. It's a fantastic flow of people who come to see mas bands and dazzling floats, dance to thumping reggae and eat an all-day buffet of Caribbean cuisine. I first went in 1975 and started my food stall there in 1991. The weekend attracts two million people – it's one of the largest carnivals outside of Rio – to the small streets of London, and I appreciate that comes with its challenges, but the atmosphere is something else.

I might be a London boy, but it's not all about the south. Up in Leeds, the Caribbean is alive and well in Chapeltown, in the city's northeast. It's home to the Leeds West Indian Carnival every August bank holiday (the same weekend as Notting Hill – so it's quite difficult to do both) but you're going to be able to find great

FOTOMATON, LOOP IMAGES/ALAMY

## A TASTE OF THE CARIBBEAN



Visiting the Caribbean is now easier than it has been for three years. Here's how to get a flavour in the UK before you go, says chef and musician *Levi Roots*

Caribbean food here year-round, especially oxtail. The takeaways in these parts really understand how to correctly braise oxtail, and by that I mean slowly. Try the one at Dutch Pot on Chapeltown Road with a dollop of juicy butter beans ([dutchpotleeds.co.uk](http://dutchpotleeds.co.uk)).

When it comes to Caribbean food, though, you have to come to Brixton. And trust

me – I know everything about Brixton. If you're in a hurry, the fried dumplings from Refill on Brixton Road make a tasty takeaway snack. Brixton Market operates stalls on Electric Avenue all week long, but Healthy Eaters on the corner is where you'll find Bob Marley's favourite Ital cuisine, which is vegetarian and all about locality ([healthyeaters.co.uk](http://healthyeaters.co.uk)).

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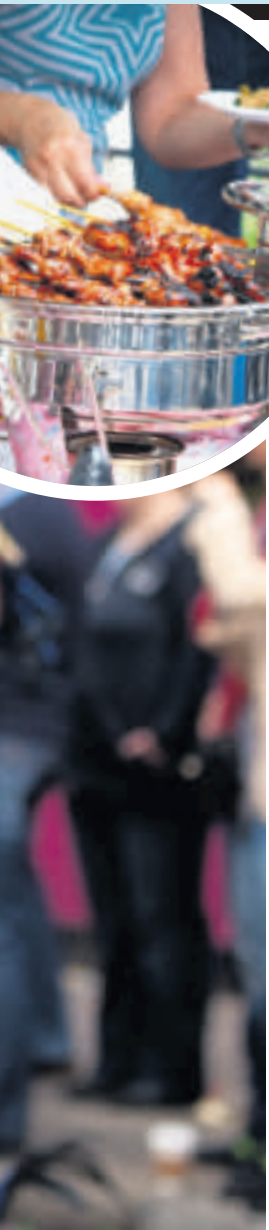
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Samba time and Caribbean food at the Notting Hill Carnival, above; the entrepreneur Levi Roots, left

Pop inside Brixton Village for two of my favourites: Fish, Wings & Tings (fishwingsandtings.com) and Etta's Seafood Kitchen (ettaskitchen.com). The latter serves Jamaica's traditional dish, ackee and saltfish, while the former is all about the wings. Sit at the tables outside with a rum punch and get to it. Finally, for the best goat curry in London, walk down Brixton Hill to plant-covered Negril. It's served as it should be: with rice and lots of gravy (negrilonline.co.uk).

To learn properly about the UK's Caribbean community and culture, stick around in Brixton and pay a visit to the Black Cultural Archives. It makes sense that they found a home here since, like Bristol, this part of the UK really holds onto the histories of the Windrush generation. From war to music, riots and revivals, the Black Cultural Archives tells all these stories and more (£5; blackculturalarchives.org).

Speaking of culture, I went to the Hayward Gallery's *In the Black Fantastic* exhibit recently and it blew me away. Located inside the Southbank Centre, it's a big, sort of dystopian showcase by contemporary artists from all around the African diaspora. Hew Locke, whose father is from Guyana and who grew up partly in its capital, Georgetown, has some fantastic empirical sculptures on display here. It's well worth stopping by before it closes on September 18 (£13.50; southbankcentre.co.uk).

For a more roving slice of Caribbean culture, you've got to watch the band Jah Shaka. They've been going since the early 1970s and I'll pretty much follow them around everywhere, especially when they're playing reggae nights in London. They're a Jamaican sound system but Jah Shaka himself is a very inspirational guy. Everyone knows him – the police even tried to ban his music in south London back in the 1970s. Check out their Facebook page to find which venue they're playing at next.

Finally, if I could give one top tip to anyone scouting out the best of the Caribbean in the UK, it would be to look at the flags. If you're at any carnival or street food market, you'll spot unusual flags that can guide you to the food of some of the lesser-known Caribbean islands, which often have amazing things to offer outside of the typical jerk chicken and rice. Go for the French Caribbean islands or those with a strong Creole influence, like Guadeloupe and Trinidad.

And remember, if it's Jamaican street food you're ordering, it's a patty, not a pastry!

Interview by Hannah Ralph

# LITTLE-KNOWN BIMINI PACKS A (RUM) PUNCH



This lesser-visited duo of isles offer dazzling beaches, diving and cocktails says *Nigel Tisdall*

It's no surprise that there's a posh home-decorating paint called Bimini Blue. As I fly into this pair of tiny islands – North and South Bimini – located in the Bahamas' far west, the surrounding ocean looks so bewitchingly beautiful that I'm tempted to relocate immediately.

But what would I do all day? As North Bimini is all of seven miles long and just 20ft at its highest point, you've got to love fishing, diving and sunshine. Although, with Miami only 50 miles away, intrepid summer visitors do zoom between here and Florida on jet skis.

To get a better handle on things I book a tour in an open-air tram cart with the effervescent Charmaine and Valon, aka the Bimini Vistas Adventurers (£76pp; biminivistasadventurers.com). It soon becomes clear that Alice Town, Bimini's low-rise "capital" on the north island, is the sort of Caribbean place where locals wave to each other, hurrying is illegal and everyone is obsessed with conch. This white-fleshed sea snail – though neither tasty nor filling in my view – is ridiculously popular and served at rustic



waterfront stands that are beyond casual. Fortified by a tumbler of BKO (Bimini Knock Out) rum punch, I ask my hosts the vital question. Is conch really "the aphrodisiac of the Bahamas", as a sign suggests? "Absolutely!" is their unanimous reply.

The conch shell does have a gorgeous pink interior that enterprising Biminities deftly craft into fish, turtle and flamingo-shaped souvenirs. I find plenty in the delightful Antoinette's Variety Store,

which also stocks colourful carnival figures ingeniously fashioned from Fanta cans and a treasury of cat and dog-themed jewellery. "That's because," as its very smart owner points out, "everyone needs a gift to take back to their pet-sitter."

Our merry trundle roves up the King's Highway and down the Queen's Highway, passing several of Bimini's ten churches (not bad for a population of 1,900) and the superb white sands of Radio Beach – where you can snorkel over Bimini Road, a mysterious run of undersea stones that some consider to be a highway to the lost city of Atlantis.

Making for the ferry dock, we pause by the filming location of the closing scene in *The Silence of the Lambs*. That seems a dubious accolade, so I'm relieved to find that Bimini is also home to two busts commemorating visits by Martin Luther King. In 1964, after he was named winner of the Nobel peace prize, the civil rights leader came here to write his acceptance speech, taking contemplative boat trips into the mangroves before kicking back with ginger ale and conch fritters.

**Continued on page 8 →**



A seaplane takes off from Bimini's waters

**“In Leeds, they know how to braise oxtail – and by that I mean slowly**



Travel

CARIBBEAN FOCUS

→ Continued from page 7

In March 1968 King returned to write what is known as his “I’ve Been to the Mountaintop” oration; only four days after he left he was shot dead in Memphis.

Another visitor to leave an indelible mark is Ernest Hemingway, who sailed here from Key West in 1935 to hunt marlin. The first part of his posthumously published novel *Islands in the Stream* is set on Bimini, a cadenced tale of fishing, fighting and male bonding. Photos of the bearded author standing beside an enormous trophy catch are everywhere in what is considered the world capital of big-game fishing thanks to the rich, deep waters off its west coast.

The best place to tune into this heritage is the Bimini Big Game Club Resort & Marina, a run of cheery yellow buildings that opened in 1963. It’s an atmospheric place to stay, with many guests coming for old-school bonefishing or the chance to dive with hammerhead sharks. The more conventional Resorts World Bimini is a contemporary complex in the north with a casino, DJ parties and a 305-room Hilton hotel. Guests there get free entry into Bimini Beach, a huge seaside club able to accommodate 2,000 guests – mainly passengers from a new, single-pier cruise port unveiled last summer.

When I express dismay at this apparent victory of commerce over character, every local I meet disagrees. “These changes create employment and make the dollars flow,” argues Ashley Saunders, a fifth-generation islander and former teacher who has written two history books on Bimini. Since 1993 he has been

DANIEL WILSON/ALAMY



Beachside eating on Bimini, left; Writer Ernest Hemingway visited the islands to fish marlin, below

painstakingly building by hand a three-storey building, Dolphin House, using only beach finds, materials rescued from dumps and upcycled items. Saunders tells me it is motivated by a wish to “build a bridge between human and dolphin consciousness”.

If that sounds cranky, don’t be put off – this is a work of Gaudiesque exuberance that features some 60 portraits of these hyper-intelligent creatures using shells and coloured-tile mosaics. Touring it is like entering a walk-in scrapbook, one rich with myriad *objets trouvés* from wing mirrors and rum bottles to fragments of British Airways crockery. On the flat white roof, which has an exhilarating view over

this shimmering, palm-studded isle, Saunders has even built a starfish-dotted mini lighthouse with a flashing red light, his artistic response to the pandemic.

“It’s a beacon of hope,” this genial Biminite explains. As the Caribbean moves towards its first fully open winter season for two years, such symbols seem wonderfully apt.

*Nigel Tisdall was a guest of the Bahamas Ministry of Tourism (bahamas.com) and Virgin Atlantic (virginatlantic.com). Room-only doubles at Bimini Big Game Club Resort & Marina from £265 (biggameclubbimini.com). Fly to Bimini via Nassau*



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**Details** Seven nights’ B&B from £5,979pp, including flights and transfers (exsus.com)

**SPOT FLAMINGOS ON GREAT INAGUA**  
The Bahamas’ most southerly island, Great Inagua is home to 140 species of native and migratory birds, and a national park where 70,000 West Indian flamingos reside year-round (above). Stay at Enrica’s Inn on the island’s western shore.  
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### Day 8 Fakarava

Pristine and dreamlike, Fakarava is home to quaint villages, old coral churches and fascinating flora and fauna. Keep your eyes peeled for rare bird life as well as the rich marine life surrounding the island.

### Day 10 Nuku Hiva

Visit the entrancing Cascade Tevaipo, one of the world's tallest falls, wander the black sand beaches or choose an adventurous vehicle excursion around the island.

### Day 12 Rangiroa

This atoll is a natural aquarium filled with colourful sea life. Choose a pearl farm visit, a manta ray dive or a stroll along the pink sand beach.

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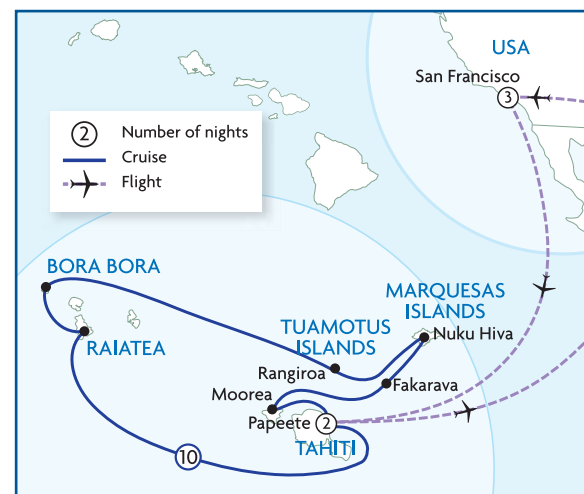
### Day 15 Raiatea

Home to vanilla plantations and pearl farms, Raiatea makes for a sweet stop on your French Polynesian voyage.

### Day 16 Disembark Nautica in Tahiti

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# THE OLD-SCHOOL ISLANDS DRAWING THE

# COOL CROWD

Trendy beach clubs, Airbnbs and a new Nobu restaurant have the twin-island nation of Antigua and Barbuda buzzing, says *Susan d'Arcy*

**R**obert De Niro is well known for taking method acting to the brink of madness. To get into character for his role as the psychopath Max Cady in *Cape Fear*, for example, he had a dentist grind down his teeth (spending \$20,000 to have them fixed post-shoot). He is no less of a perfectionist in his hospitality ventures. At the Greenwich, his hotel in New York, he had every brick handcrafted to one of 20 specifications to create precisely the crumbling patina he had in mind. Right now his laser focus is on the Caribbean island of Barbuda, Antigua's twin sister and neighbour.

Until now, Barbuda's claim to fame has been that it was Princess Diana's favourite hideaway – images of her on the golden crescent of Access Beach in the Nineties put the island on the radar to such

an extent that it renamed the powder-fine stretch Princess Diana Beach in 2011. Six years later disaster struck when Hurricane Irma ripped through the island.

Now De Niro is part of the vanguard aiming to transform Barbuda into the Caribbean's hottest spot.

Nobu Barbuda – De Niro's latest restaurant-cum-beach club, which opens in November (noburestaurants.com) – occupies a prime position on Princess Diana Beach, where its sleek zen style brings urban sophistication to the West Indies. There's every chance that Giorgio Armani, Oprah Winfrey or Lionel Messi – all regulars on Antigua – will be in the next cabana along,



**Tamarind Hills in Antigua.** Left, Oprah Winfrey, a regular visitor to the island

tucking into signature Nobu dishes such as miso black cod or Barbudan lobster.

The restaurant is the first salvo of a ten-year masterplan from Charles Fernandez, the minister for tourism, to turn Barbuda into “St Barts on steroids”. His blueprint also features luxury resorts including the Nobu Beach Inn, a boutique hotel, wellness retreat and organic farm next to the restaurant that will break ground soon.

If you're not interested in star-spotting, there's always birdwatching, because the enduring appeal of Barbuda is its natural assets. It has the world's largest colony of frigate birds, the avian answer to a Red Arrows display, and a ring of reefs where you can tick off turtles, rays and the rest of the cast of *Finding Nemo*. It also has some of the region's most beautiful palm-fringed pink and white beaches, including one called 11 Mile (take a wild guess why).

While Antigua is more developed, it is no less appealing, with beaches so

spectacular that St Lucians honeymoon there, along with exceptional sailing and minimal crime. It is the closest Caribbean island to the UK and, consequently, has always been popular with British families and silver-haired winter-sun warriors. But over the past two years a new travel tribe has arrived: the digital nomads – Antigua's relatively good pandemic (it registered 145 deaths and lifted restrictions quite quickly) put it firmly on the millennial map as somewhere lovely to sit out lockdowns.

This younger market sparked a sharp rise in the number of Airbnb properties – up 50 per cent last year, making the island more affordable for visitors. The presence of self-caterers has also encouraged chefs to open restaurants beyond the all-inclusive resorts, the traditional mainstay of the Antiguan tourism industry.

One of the best is the Asian-inspired Rokuni, perched over Nonsuch Bay, so that diners can look down on eagle rays in the turquoise waters as they tuck into delicious truffle-laced gyoza, or look up to see the palatial villa of Silvio Berlusconi (mains from £17; rokuni-antigua.com).

For something more





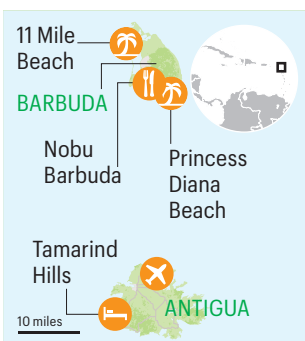


STEVE GRANITZ/BETTY IMAGES



Rokuni and, far left, Tamarind Hills on Antigua

“De Niro is helping to transform Barbuda into the hottest spot in the Caribbean



authentic, dishes such as black pineapple-marinated pork and West Indian fish curry are getting rave reviews for the new Fox House, a Creole farm-to-table experience in St Mary’s (mains from £17; thefoxhouseantigua.com).

Antigua is also capitalising on the global trend for upmarket holiday villas. Construction is under way at

the Pearn’s Point, a lush west-coast peninsula with a pristine beach and reef. Homes cost skyward of £18 million, with the likes of the Rothschild banking dynasty and the Thomson family, billionaire owners of Thomson Reuters news agency, having snapped up plots (pearnspoint.com).

The hotel scene is also buoyant. The international brand Nikki Beach, famed for

its ultra-hip beach properties in St Tropez and Marbella, is building a resort, and high-profile chains such as One&Only are scouting sites.

Meanwhile, existing properties are upgrading. Next month Tamarind Hills – which straddles Darkwood and Ffryes, two of Antigua’s best beaches – unveils 46 one-bedroom villas that have a whitewashed minimalist mood board; in sharp contrast to its existing 57 rooms, which have colourful Caribbean decor. It is also adding a contemporary beachfront restaurant and a pool with a swim-up bar.

For De Niro, the decision to choose this corner for his first Caribbean hotel was simple: “I went to Barbuda on a day trip and never forgot it. It’s a wonderful spot like you can’t find any more. The location and the people are special.”

*Susan d’Arcy was a guest of the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority (visitantigua.com). Room-only doubles from £335 (tamarindhills.com). Transfers between Antigua and Barbuda take 90 minutes by ferry, from £87pp return (barbudaexpress.com). Fly to Antigua*

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Travel CARIBBEAN FOCUS

The top family resorts offer chocolate-making courses, Treasure Island-themed children’s clubs and tennis clinics, says *Mike MacEacheran*

BEST BOUTIQUE HOTEL  
TRUE BLUE BAY, GRENADA

Sunglasses are almost a prerequisite for this colour-splashed beachfront resort, which pairs two playgrounds with four pools. Though much of the time will be spent in water – tales of snorkelling Grenada’s Underwater Sculpture Park should turn heads back at home – there’s substance here too. Take the kids’ club, which is also open to local children, or the hotel’s partnership with a nearby school, allowing parents and older kids to give a little back by helping out. Family-owned, the hotel has grown from seven rooms to 70, ranging from villas to those with a kitchenette. Chocolate is taken seriously too, with the annual week-long Grenada Chocolate Fest overseen by the hotel’s founder Magdalena Fielden.



KIDS GO

BEST FOR WATER PARKS  
ROYALTON BAVARO RESORT & SPA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Many families who come to this all-inclusive Royalton outpost are drawn by its aquamarine waters and no-messing-about activities. How quaint, you think, when you see the lazy river, only to then spy the FlowRider wave machine and surf simulator and realise this is a resort built for the modern age. Laid out for ease, with accommodation facing the pools, the estate also features a splash park and the mandatory kids’ club. Plus Royalton’s location in Punta Cana – one of the Dominican Republic’s most fashionable spots – means attractions such as Scape Park with its zip lines and cenotes are in striking distance. **Details** All-inclusive family suites from £433 (royaltonresorts.com). Fly to Punta Cana

BEST LUXURY RESORT  
ROSEWOOD LITTLE DIX BAY, BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

Reopened after a four-year closure, a pummelling from Hurricane Irma and a lockdown revamp, this sprawling 500-acre resort on Virgin Gorda island has the kind of children’s activities that most mums and dads dream of doing themselves. Inspired by Robert Louis Stevenson’s *Treasure Island*, it lets little ones sail and drop anchor, make (non-alcoholic, don’t worry) rum and hunt for treasure on land or underwater. In between, there are also deep dives into West Indian culture through music and storytelling. **Details** Seven nights’ B&B in a family suite from £5,999pp, including all flights (abercrombiekent.co.uk)

BEST FOR UNDER-10S  
BEACHES NEGRIL RESORT & SPA, JAMAICA

Over on Jamaica’s so-laid-back-it’s-horizontal west coast, famed for its sunsets, Beaches adds to the sense of sheer holiday bliss present all along Negril’s gorgeous Seven Mile Beach. The all-inclusive activities that make it ideal for



primary school-aged kids, include meet-and-greets with *Sesame Street* characters (biscuit-making with Cookie Monster, Big Bird-led nature walks), a pirate-themed waterpark, stage shows, street parades and watersports aplenty. Little ones will also love the choice of nine restaurants while mums and dads should relish choosing between (or touring) seven bars. **Details** Seven nights’ all-inclusive in a family suite from £1,923pp, including flights (britishairways.com)

BEST FOR VILLAS  
WINDJAMMER LANDING VILLA BEACH RESORT, ST LUCIA

Almost all Caribbean resorts have swimming pools somewhere amid their florid palms. Few can brag about having six, however, nor two







TANVEER BADAL; JACOB S. JOWAN; MICHAEL GRIMM

FREE!



“  
**Sesame Street  
meet-and-greets  
include making  
biscuits with  
Cookie Monster  
and nature walks  
with Big Bird**

From sailing, far left, to rides on inflatables, there are water-based activities to suit every mood. Take a dip at the Crane in Barbados, above, or the Magdalena Grand in Trinidad and Tobago, below. Villas at Windjammer Landing in St Lucia, below left. Giant chess at Amanyara, Turks and Caicos, far left

solely for families. Besides this guaranteed sweetener, Windjammer Landing has plenty of space with six grades of villas and four types of suites dotted up the hillside; some have kitchenettes for picky eaters, others come with private infinity pools. Available activities include island tours, climbing a volcano or zip-lining through a rainforest canopy. Afterwards, join a chocolate-making course using St Lucia's cocoa beans. **Details** Seven nights' B&B from £2,215pp, including flights and private transfers (inspiringtravel.co.uk)

## BEST FOR ADVENTURES FOR ALL AGES

### FOUR SEASONS RESORT AND RESIDENCES, ANGUILLA

The beachfront, ultramarine sea and tropical essence of this bumper-sized resort on Anguilla – a less-visited destination that truly delivers in buckets and spades – are all exquisite. Still more impressive for parents, however, is the all-inclusive, year-round kids' club, climbing wall, basketball and tennis courts, not to mention excursions to nearby Sandy Island, where children aged nine upwards can join kids-only camps on day or overnight trips. Golf carts let you freewheel from your villa to the sand, but the hottest ticket is the resort's private beach club.

**Details** B&B family suites from £760 (fourseasons.com). Fly to Sint Maarten (Princess Juliana)

## BEST HOME-FROM-HOME

### THE CRANE RESORT, BARBADOS

With a village-like atmosphere and assortment of shops, this timeshare-hotel hybrid is for families who want to be part of an instant community. An art gallery, souvenir sellers and a kids' club, tropical-palm

Continued on page 22 →





Travel

CARIBBEAN FOCUS

→ **Continued from page 21** pathways and steps – or an exciting glass lift – duly lead on to the pink-tinged Crane Beach, where a natural coral reef awaits. The Crane has been in business since 1887, and claims to have been the Caribbean’s first resort hotel. Your children might coo at its fairytale-style turreted blocks, but the real showstopper is a series of tiered, clifftop pools – plus the suites with amenities including kitchens and washer/dryers.

**Details** Seven nights’ B&B in a family suite from £1,195pp, including flights (travelrepublic.co.uk)

BEST FOR SPORTS

CURTAIN BLUFF, ANTIGUA

A luxury all-inclusive Antiguan resort with free-swinging hammocks, two private beaches and watersports galore, Curtain Bluff is a memory-making headquarters. No wonder families return year after year. Access to its kids’ club is included in the hotel rate and includes movie time, beachcombing and fishing, and there’s additionally a free tennis clinic, plus sailing,



JACOB S JOMAN; TANVEER BADAL



The Magdalena Grand’s golf course and, right, a room at the Amanyara

snorkelling, waterskiing and boat tubing alongside a go-wild jungle gym. It’s not all sweat, though – witness the cookie-making and ice-cream-sundae workshops, or wine-appreciation classes for grown-ups.

**Details** Seven nights’ all-inclusive in a family suite from £4,625pp, including flights (caribtours.co.uk)

BEST FOR YOUNG GOLFERS

MAGDALENA GRAND BEACH & GOLF RESORT, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

The clever Magdalena clocked ages ago that the key to a memorable family holiday is to make sure that the children are happy first; in fact, this was the all-consuming tenet when the hotel was designed. That explains a free-roaming

philosophy in the gated resort, with beaches to romp on, a golf course open to half-pint putters, three pools and a playground. For those with tantrum-prone toddlers, there are plenty of island tours for every mood, plus complimentary bikes and a daily activities programme. What pre-schooler would get fed up with all that?

**Details** B&B family suites from £216 (magdalenagrand.com). Fly to Tobago

BEST FOR NATURE FANS

AMANYARA, TURKS AND CAICOS

You’ll feel as though you’ve won the holiday lottery when arriving at this uber-exclusive retreat on the Atlantic shores of Providenciales island, set in an 18,000-acre nature reserve. Along with the infinity pools, extensive beachfront and five or six-room villas comes the Nature Discovery Centre

where a team of specialists host underwater photography expeditions, mangrove safaris and bird-watching sessions. You’ll find a coral reef for scuba fans and horse riding, but if the outdoors doesn’t beckon there is also the Clubhouse, promising film nights with popcorn. This being an Aman, expect best-in-business service too.

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As Pinocchio hits our screens, Sarah Marshall visits the city that inspired its writer

In a tiny shop behind the Piazza del Duomo, a vendor shows me a pack of hand-painted playing cards presented in a wooden box crafted by her husband. Each features the character of Pinocchio in different scenarios around the city of Florence, among them: fishing from the Ponte Vecchio, lazing on a bench outside the Basilica of Santa Maria Novella, even flying above Brunelleschi's cathedral dome in a hot-air balloon.

For four generations, the owners of L'Arte de' Ciompi have crafted and sold souvenirs on the streets of Florence. When I ask why the long-nosed wooden marionette is a favourite subject, she replies matter-of-factly: "Because Pinocchio was born here."

Carlo Lorenzini may not be as well known as Florentine sons such as Dante and Leonardo da Vinci, but the author's didactic tale of a puppet who

Florence's Piazza della Repubblica, above; a still from the new Disney film and a book cover from 1946



# FAIRYTALE FLORENCE



becomes a real boy has been translated into more than 260 languages and made into multiple films since it was first published in a magazine serial in 1881.

Now Hollywood is once again revamping the story with two new adaptations: Disney's live-action remake, starring Tom Hanks, released on Disney+ on September 8; and Guillermo del Toro's darker Netflix version set in fascist Italy, with voices from Ewan McGregor

and Tilda Swinton, scheduled for the end of the year.

As I walk through stone-paved streets trailing from the River Arno, it's easy to see how Lorenzini (who later adopted the pseudonym Collodi) could have been inspired by his birthplace: medieval towers spiral from palazzos and treasures glitter on church façades. Yet nobody can truthfully pinpoint locations featured in the book.

Collodi, a small hill town an hour's drive from Florence, is often credited as a big influence. Lorenzini's mother worked as a seamstress for the Garzoni family, whose Renaissance villa now attracts tourists. In the 1950s a sculpture and play park was

built to capitalise on the story's success. But Claudia Durante, a tourism guide who recently launched a *Pinocchio*-themed walking tour of Florence, believes stronger connections lie elsewhere.

"He wrote under the name Collodi to avoid trouble with authorities," she explains, describing the author and journalist as an outspoken political satirist.

The first stop on our half-day excursion is the newly opened Museo del Giocattolo e di Pinocchio, in Via dell'Ortiolo. Here several glass cabinets are filled with *Pinocchio* memorabilia amassed by the Florentine historian Giuseppe Garbarino.

Among the wooden toys, bottles of bespoke brewed beer and novelty pasta shapes are several copies of the fairytale texts Lorenzini was paid to translate into Italian – a sidestep from his work as an art and music critic. Edward Lear's *A Book of Nonsense* could easily have sparked the idea for whimsical characters such as Jiminy Cricket and the Fox, says Duante.

Parading from the pages of children's books onto busy streets, puppets, jesters and circus acts have entertained Italian audiences for centuries. We walk through the Central Market, where many would have performed, to reach the author's birthplace on Via Taddea.

Like so many of the key locations in Lorenzini's life, there is little evidence of his existence. Instead, we use our imaginations to peel away layers of the past. A five-minute walk away, a shop on Via Cavour specialising in fountain pens aptly honours

**Continued on page 26 →**

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TravelItaly

→ **Continued from page 25**  
the former site of Caffè Michelangelo, where a group of artists would meet to discuss the struggles of Italy’s unification. Lorenzini, who fought in the wars of independence and was frustrated by social inequality, often moved in these radical circles.

“Poverty is a constant presence throughout the book,” says Anna Kraczyna, academic and co-translator of an excellent new English edition of *The Adventures of Pinocchio* for Penguin, who also leads private tours (half-day £515 for up to six; pinocchiosfootsteps.com). “Pinocchio is always hungry; people are always cold.”

On a mission to “rescue” the real story, she has striven to interpret faithfully “the peculiarities of a Tuscan language” she grew up with. Disenchanted with adults, Lorenzini turned his attention to the next generation,



**Villa La Petraia, one of the many grand palazzos on the outskirts of Florence, was formerly a Medici family country home**

shaping the future leaders of a newly unified Italy searching for identity, says Kraczyna. “This is a book that truly talks about the importance of education as a means to not become a puppet,” she says. Although the salons of

Lorenzini’s era have since disappeared, Italian café culture remains strong. Crossing Piazza della Repubblica, I head to Gilli, an art nouveau beauty of glinting chandeliers and marble-top bars. Remarkably, a prosciutto

and formaggio croissant here costs less than my breakfast bun at Gatwick’s Pret.

But if Lorenzini had been around today, he’d most likely have found time to criticise politicians while digging into a typical Tuscan bistecca at bohemian Cibrèo Caffè. Located behind Mercato di Sant’Ambrogio, it’s a favourite with locals and left-field celebrities – I spotted Helena Bonham Carter there during my August visit.

Hotel Brunelleschi, where I’m staying, perfectly fits with the make-believe narrative. It was built around the 1,300-year-old Pagliazza tower and the remains of a Roman bath, and below my window clip-clopping horses drag carts and street sopranos belt out opera. Yet I still sleep like a

princess (without a pea).

Grand palazzos sprawl into the city suburbs, where many wealthy families had a country home. It takes only 20 minutes by train to reach Sesto Fiorentino and neighbouring town Castello, where Lorenzini’s brother worked at the Ginori porcelain factory.

Savouring the breezy, fresh air, I immediately appreciate why the author would spend summers on the slopes of Monte Morello at his brother’s rented property, Villa del Bel Riposo, neighbouring the splendid Medici Villa La Petraia.

Making a regular circuit to buy cigars, he passed many people and places that ultimately featured in his story: a carpenter’s workshop; an oak tree broad enough for a

puppet’s noose (an ominous fixture in the tale’s original unhappy ending); and a Field of Miracles, where buried stolen gold coins were found.

After exploring the ornate gardens of Villa Reale, an inspiration for Botticelli’s painting *Primavera*, I head to the resting place of Giovanna Ragionieri. In several interviews, the daughter of a gardener at Villa del Bel Riposo claimed to be the bright-eyed inspiration for *Pinocchio*’s Blue-Haired Fairy.

It is one of the many secrets Lorenzini took to his grave, and the truth will never be known. After his death, personal letters were destroyed for fear they might compromise several high-profile married women.

Returning to Florence, I end my pilgrimage at an appropriate point: his tomb. Reached by a steep walk, through romantic rose gardens and rows of cypress as tall as Pinocchio’s nose is long, the simple tomb is overshadowed by San Miniato al Monte’s grandiose Romanesque marble façade. Only a wooden souvenir of the famous puppet dangling from an iron coil indicates who lies here.

Lorenzini may be lost and forgotten in the flesh, but his spirit survives in the enduring appeal of his wood-carved progeny.

“It talks to a part of our soul, something that’s in our DNA,” insists Kraczyna, who, like so many Italians, grew up listening to the story and continued to share it with her children.

“Geppetto makes Pinocchio and – like every parent – wants him to be the way he decides. But that never works. This is a story of what it means to be a human being: of obeying, not obeying and finding your own way.

*Sarah Marshall was a guest of Citalia. Three-night B&B breaks at the Brunelleschi Hotel from £599pp, including flights (citalia.com). ToursByLocals operates three-hour private Pinocchio in Florence tours with local guide Claudia (£285 for up to eight people; toursbylocals.com)*

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## 3 GREAT PLACES TO EAT AND DRINK IN FLORENCE

**THE ON-TREND RESTAURANT OSTERIA DELL'ENOTECA**  
For a proper taste of Florence's new food, head south of the Arno River to the Santo Spirito district. Here, restaurants are raiding the local countryside and coast for inspiration while rethinking traditional Tuscan dishes and trying to intensify flavours. Leading the trend is the intimate Osteria dell'Enoteca, where prized Italian steaks or onion flans beside fondues of aged parmesan are devoured by a young, well-to-do clientele. For the decor, exposed stone and original arches meet svelte light fixtures. **Details** Mains from £12 (osteriadellenoteca.com)

**THE ULTIMATE ICE CREAM GELATERIA EDOARDO**  
The Edoardo gelateria is conveniently located next to Florence's red-domed cathedral, right on a corner of the focal Piazza del

Duomo. Swirled into cones handmade in front of you, its ice cream is organic and comes in flavours including pistachio, coconut, cappuccino and apple strudel. Sorbets are also served and the vintage-style parlour stays open until 11pm, just in case dinner didn't quite hit the spot. **Details** Scoops from £3 (edoardobio.com)

**THE BAR WITH A VIEW SE.STO**  
When it comes to a romantic aperitivo in Florence, the glass-walled Se.Sto — on the sixth floor of the Westin Excelsior — takes some beating. Set above the Arno, in the Centro Storico, this chic bar-restaurant affords mesmerising views and is the perfect spot to raise a glass to the city. It's also very popular; if possible, ring the bar manager and reserve a table for your final evening. **Details** Mains from £34 (sestoarno.com) **Sean Newsom**



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Japan is finally open to all visitors. The timing couldn't be better for the west-coast city about to join the bullet-train network, says *Jamie Lafferty*

The approach to Nagasaki is perhaps the most beautiful of any flight in Japan – a carefully threaded route running between mountains and over towns, bays and islands that appear like dark bobbles on a turquoise jumper. The city is approached by air more than many others its size because it does not yet have a bullet train station and the Japanese have binding societal rules when it comes to travel (and much else besides) – in this instance, only if the train takes longer than three hours do you fly. In Japan it often feels as though no one drives anywhere too far away.

However, the remarkable view from the air will be enjoyed by fewer people from this month, with Nagasaki finally scheduled to join the Shinkansen high-speed rail network on September 23. This will open the city to more

domestic travellers and, coupled with the recent news that visitors to Japan will no longer need to be part of a strict guided tour, hopefully to more foreigners too.

Waiting for them will be a city that had to be rebuilt after the 1945 nuclear attack, but which has always been one of the most diverse places in the country – where, even today, Chinese influence is present in temples and cuisine, and where the surrounding mountains and islands have histories and legends all of their own. As one of the most westerly cities in Japan, on the island of Kyushu, spring comes early and autumn late, giving it a very different feel to Tokyo and its tragic sister city, Hiroshima, back on the main island of Honshu.

My guide, Miyuki Ogawa, has the unenviable job of condensing the profoundly complex history of her home town into the couple of days that I'm with her. She starts on

the boat ride out to the former mining town of Hashima, which has been nicknamed Gunkanjima, or Battleship Island. “You’ll see – it’s very unusual,” she says as we smash over the waves towards the peculiar island, which among other things features as the villain Raoul Silva’s lair in the James Bond film *Skyfall*.

Today typhoons and salty air are tearing the island to pieces, but in its 1960s heyday more than 5,000 people lived here, crammed so tightly that Hashima had nine times the population density of Tokyo. Men were sent 600m down into its mine shafts while, above, their families had relatively normal lives, though nursery-aged children had to climb to the tenth floor of a high-rise to get to their school. There was a drunk tank, which endures, but there was not much room for privacy, so neighbours overheard celebrations, arguments and also grieving – before the



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# SIES ON GASAKI



Mitsubishi Corporation closed its operation here in 1974 many of its workers died while mining coal.

Back in Nagasaki we take a seat at a waterside café and order cappuccinos. The chocolate dusting has been stencilled to look like the revolutionary Sakamoto Ryoma, who was assassinated in 1867. “Top-knot samurais would have been walking around here just 150 years ago,” Ogawa says, looking across the harbour. In front of us, the mighty Giant Cantilever Crane has stood here since it was imported from Motherwell in 1908, improbably surviving the Second World War.

Japan’s 265-year isolationist period, known as Sakoku, was violently enforced across the country. It began here in the late 16th century, when Portuguese priests and missionaries, having explained the crucifixion of Christ to locals, were dealt the same fate by unreceptive local authorities. It is said that their bodies were then hung above Nagasaki as a warning for other would-be visitors to stay away.

Despite that awful event, the city evolved to be the only place in which foreign traders were permitted to do business. By 1634 they had their own district, Dejima, which today is a living museum that aims to recreate the remarkable years when the Dutch and Chinese were the only people allowed to visit the country. As we walk from one period building to another, Ogawa gestures at the architecture and says:

**Nagasaki’s rebuilt skyline, above; the city’s Shimabara Castle, right; living museum guides in costume at Dejima, below**

“This was the first cosmopolitan city in Japan.” The two-storey wooden structures have replica rooms demonstrating the fusion: western pottery and furniture has been placed on tatami mats, guarded by delicate paper doors.

The history of Nagasaki is one of development: the early trade with foreigners; the later arrival of industrialists such as Thomas Blake Glover, the Scotsman whose ornamental gardens still command marvellous views across the city; and now the bullet train marking another phase of openness and accessibility. And yet, for all that progress, when it comes to foreign

involvement in the city it’s impossible to ignore the arrival of Fat Man – the bomb that turned the city to dust, carried here by a plane called Bockscar on August 9, 1945.

So total is the city’s recovery – it has similar gardens, parks and post-war buildings to those found all over the country – that were it not for the concerted efforts of the Japanese to remember the atomic bombing, a visitor might never know it happened. The first nuclear device, Little Boy, had been dropped on Hiroshima a few days earlier, but the Nagasaki citizens who died in the plutonium blast would not have known what hit them.

Perhaps because fewer people died here (an estimated 70,000, compared with perhaps double that in Hiroshima), the bombing of Nagasaki is less well remembered out of the two,



“It is impossible to ignore the arrival of Fat Man – the bomb that turned the city to dust



but for some residents the shadow of Fat Man continues to fall on the city. The Atomic Bomb Museum focuses on the minutiae of that awful day, with graphic photographs of victims and profound testimony from witnesses. One, attributed to a Jun Higashi, reads: “All words used to describe this horrible spectacle from this day on have become, for me, inadequate.”

Ogawa discusses it with admirable neutrality, despite her grandfather having a miraculous near-miss on the day. While working in a factory just outside what would soon become a no-survival zone, he saw a flash in the sky and instinctively hid under a table. Almost all his colleagues died. Later, shellshocked and disorientated, he got lucky again when his wife, carrying their daughter, found him wandering away from the wreckage.

Away from the museum, the bomb is a psychic ever-presence for visitors and residents alike. On the ropeway to Mount Inasa – one of the many peaks that encircle Nagasaki, which offers magnificent 360-degree views – a disembodied voice with a vaguely American lilt calmly says: “To your left you can see the hypocentre of the atomic bomb.” It is a singularly strange thing to hear.

The Nagasaki Peace Park was built for contemplation and mourning, filled with memorials, fountains and manicured plants. For Inosuke Hayasaki it has also become a second home. Now in his nineties, he comes whenever he can in the hope of meeting foreigners, so he can tell them his astonishing story of survival and discuss the need to banish nuclear weapons. None has been dropped on people since the attack on Nagasaki, and he hopes that stays forever true.

“I was 14 and working in a munitions factory,” he says. “The bomb went off and I was thrown behind a pillar. There were 32 of us working that day; I was the only one who survived. I want to tell . . .”

As Hayasaki is talking, an incongruously cheery electronic alarm goes off at 11.02am, as it does each day to mark the moment that the sky exploded above Nagasaki. Realising what it is, my pen falters and my eyes fill with tears. The survivor keeps talking. There’s a chance that he can’t hear it or has somehow become habituated to its dreadful melody, but in that moment, for me, it is the only sound in the world.

*Jamie Lafferty was a guest of Kyushu Tourism (visit-kyushu.com). Thirteen nights’ B&B on Inside Japan’s Kyushu Adventure, which includes time in Nagasaki, from £2,660pp, including car hire, transfers and extra meals (insidejapantours.com). Travel to Nagasaki via Tokyo*

## 3 MORE TOURS OF JAPAN WITH BULLET TRAIN RIDES

### CROSS-COUNTRY TRAIN JOURNEY

If you like the sound of bullet trains, how about a fully fledged rail adventure? Using a succession of locomotives, this small-group tour journeys the length of Japan from Hokkaido to Kyushu via guided excursions in Tokyo and temple-crammed Kyoto. Along the way you’ll get to cruise across a crater lake, attend a traditional tea ceremony, see Mount Fuji and visit a peace park in Hiroshima. **Details** Fifteen nights’ B&B from £5,495pp, including flights, all transport, tours and four dinners, departing April 8 and October 7, 2023 (greatrail.com)

### HOT SPRINGS AND VINE BRIDGES

Travelling around southern Japan, this group tour pairs urban fascination with natural wonders. You’ll stop in food-obsessed Osaka and Nagasaki before leaving the latter by bullet train bound for a remote, cedar-forested island. World-class art isle Naoshima also features (above), as do monkeys, hiking trails to hot-spring baths, a village populated by

scarecrows and Indiana Jones-style crossings of the lush Iya Valley’s *kazurabashi* vine bridges.

**Details** Eleven nights’ room-only from £3,285pp, including activities, a 14-day rail pass and other transfers; year-round departures from October (intrepidtravel.com). Fly to Osaka

### JAPAN FOR FOODIES

Starting from vibrant Tokyo and concluding amid Kyoto’s sacred shrines, here’s a tailor-made itinerary focusing on Japan’s legendary cuisine.

After trawling markets, you’ll be taught to make rolled sushi and miso soup; also promised are a sake tasting, a lesson in crafting soba noodles and breakfast at a Buddhist temple after you’ve watched chanting monks. A culinary tour of Osaka also features after a bullet train transfer, and so too do fascinating geisha districts and a traditional ryokan stay.

**Details** Eleven nights’ B&B from £2,655pp, including transfers, a Tokyo transport card, tours and workshops (easttravel.co.uk). Fly to Tokyo

**Richard Mellor**







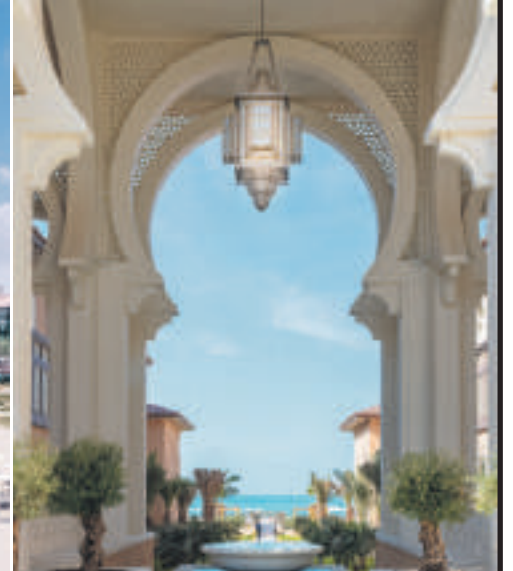
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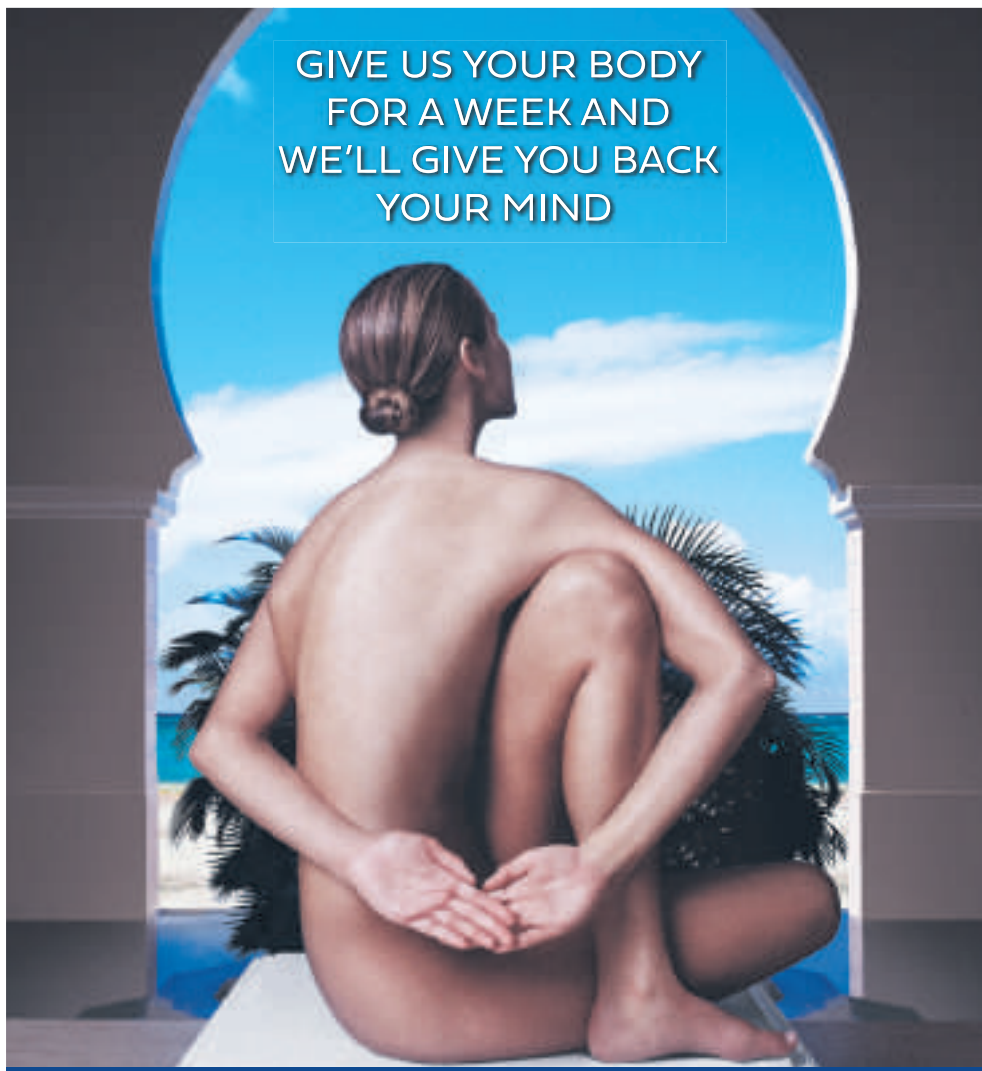
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## THE BIG WEEKEND

**T**he affluent Bavarian capital is a fascinating mix of proud tradition, world-class culture and global innovation. You'll find a modern hub set against a backdrop of Italianate architecture, royal palaces, beer halls and parks, including the Englischer Garten – one of Europe's largest urban green spaces. Come during Oktoberfest for amplified levels of lederhosen.

As the host of the European Athletics Championships in August, Munich is a city that appeals to a sporty crowd. Locals swim in the river, zip around on bikes and dust off their skis at the first sign of snow. Of course, others may feel more comfortable behind the wheel of a luxury motor or prefer to lift nothing more than a litre of beer.

## WHAT TO DO

- Home to Marienplatz, the neogothic Neues Rathaus and the onion-domed Frauenkirche, the old town (Altstadt) is where your sightseeing count will soon clock up. Allow plenty of time to explore the grand interiors of the Munich Residenz, Germany's largest inner-city palace (from £8; residenz-muenchen.de).
- The Hofbräuhaus beer hall (hofbraeuhaus.de) has been replicated the world over. While the behatted regulars at their usual tables remind you that the Munich branch is the original, it can still feel quite touristy. For less oompah try leafy beer gardens, such as the Augustiner Keller (augustinerkeller.de) and the Biergarten am Wiener Platz (hofbraeukeller.de), or the craft-beer bar Frisches Bier (frischesbier-muenchen.de).
- Many top museums and galleries are clustered in an area known as the Kunstareal. The choice here can be overwhelming but one place stands out. Located in a white box-like structure, the Munich Documentation Centre for the History of National Socialism looks at the city's Nazi past – starting with the surrounding buildings and the site itself (free; nsdoku.de).
- Larger than New York's Central Park, the Englischer Garten is a mix of green lawns, winding paths, man-made waterways and buzzing beer gardens. Head to the northern end for peace and quiet, and the southern edge for surfers riding a static wave known as the Eisbachwelle (free; no website).
- Previously located on Marienplatz, the Viktualienmarkt open-air food market was moved to its present spot – right next door – in 1807 (free; viktualienmarkt-muenchen.de). People come here for a bite to eat or to pick up groceries from the wooden stands with stripy awnings. Join the lunchtime queue for hugely popular baked potatoes from Caspar Plautz (casparplautz.de) and try the cheesecake from the patisserie Lea Zapf (leazapf.de).
- Last but not least, head to the River Isar. In summer the banks are particularly busy with people gathering by the clear water to swim and socialise. Cycle south along the eastern bank from the Deutsches Museum for wilder and quieter spots (free; no website).

## THE COOLEST NEIGHBOURHOOD

The Glockenbach district has been gentrified since Freddie Mercury used to hang out in its clubs, but is still a vibrant neighbourhood with lively bars and an avant-garde culinary scene. It's also a great spot for shopping with fashionable



## MUNICH

Come for beer halls and brilliant parks, says *Kate Mann*

boutiques and independent shops lining the streets around Gärtnerplatz. Try Madam Anna Ekke (madamannaekke.de) for breakfast, About Given (aboutgiven.de) for sustainable labels and Junge Römer (jungeroemer-muenchen.de) for fresh negronis.

WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK  
Xaver's

A traditional yet contemporary Bavarian pub. The young owners, one of whom gives his name to the bar, work closely with organic farmers and local producers to create an interesting menu. Find favourites including schnitzel, roast pork and macaroni-like käsespätzle. Leave room (and time) for kaiserschmarrn, a pancake pud that takes 25 minutes to prepare (mains from £12; xaver-s.de).

## The Hutong Club

Once your eyes have adjusted to this dimly lit restaurant in Schwabing, they'll be drawn to the handmade noodles, colourful salads and steaming dumplings on offer, including lobster and saffron (mains from £11; thehutongclub.de).

## EssZimmer by Käfer

On the third floor of the futuristic BMW World, this fine-dining restaurant has two Michelin stars and a view of the car showroom below. The driving force behind the multi-course tasting menu is Bobby Bräuer, one of Germany's top chefs (five courses £160; feinkost-kaefer.de/esszimmer-muenchen).

“  
Visit during  
Oktoberfest for  
amplified levels  
of lederhosen



## Bean Batter

This cool café in the hip Westend district specialises in flat whites and fresh waffles. Toppings vary but include combinations such as smoked salmon, pickled beetroot and sour cream (waffles from £8; bean-batter.de).

## Curtain Call

Run by the chaps behind the Illusionist, a gin produced in Munich, Curtain Call is a must for cocktail fans. The dry gin, which changes from blue to purple-pink with the addition of tonic, makes an exciting base for their in-house creations (drinks from £8; curtaincall.bar).

## Weinbar Griabig

For a crash course in German wine pull up a stool or perch on the window sill at this busy bar in the old town. Cosy and a bit edgy, this place has a large selection of whites and reds from across the country. Whatever you choose, the Brotzeit platters make a perfect pairing (dishes from £4; das-griabig.de).

## WHERE TO STAY

## Cocoon Sendlinger Tor

This new budget hotel – one of three branches in Munich – is close to the southern gate of the old town. As breakfast costs extra, it might be worth heading out instead. One of Munich's top coffee roasters, Man Versus Machine, is just a ten-minute walk away (room-only doubles from £85; cocoon-hotels.de).

## MOMA 1890 Hotel

This boutique hotel in Haidhausen has been run by the same family for generations. Thanks to its position next to the Ostbahnhof transport hub, you'll have no problem finding quick connections around the city and to the airport (room-only doubles from £147; moma1890.com).

## Hotel Vier Jahreszeiten Kempinski

Located on Maximilianstrasse, Munich's top address for designer labels, this place is as luxurious as the shops that flank it. Displaying classic charm, the hotel was opened in 1858. Its Michelin-starred restaurant, Schwarzeiter, serves “Young Bavarian Cuisine” (room-only doubles from £318; kempinski.com).

## IF YOU ONLY DO ONE THING

For excellent views of the old town and beyond, scale the 306 steps to the top of St Peter's (Alter Peter). On a clear day, you should see the Alps (£4; alterpeter.de).

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The roof of the Peak District



The Cornish coast near Zennor, above; hiking in the Vale of Ewyas, Monmouthshire, right

returns to its haunting best once summer crowds have gone. This classic circuit is a big day in blustery hills for the trail-hardened – 19 miles, nine hours from Hope village, tracking over the gritstone tors that ring the Vale of Edale. The light is extraordinary when sunshine shifts through watery clouds. There's an option to ascend the regional high point Kinder Scout (2,086ft) – bet you don't bother. Underleigh House B&B afterwards is like a hug. **Details** B&B doubles from £115 (underleighthouse.co.uk)

SOUTH DOWNS CIRCUIT EAST SUSSEX

Comely hills, art, a good lunch – there's a lot to like about this easy 12-mile loop of the South Downs from idyllic Firle village. The South Downs Way provides far-reaching views before it descends into pretty Alfriston, your cue to relax in a café before the return via the Bloomsbury set's Charleston farmhouse. Extend to the Long Man of Wilmington hill figure to earn a glass of Sussex fizz at Firle's the Ram Inn. Stay in Alfriston's Wingrove House. **Details** B&B doubles from

£110 (wingrovehousealfriston.com)

CAUSEWAY COAST WAY CO ANTRIM/LONDONDERRY

Finest coastal hike in the UK? The 32 miles between Portstewart and Ballycastle is a strong contender. You'll already know parts such as the Giant's Causeway but what lingers in many walkers' memories are other destinations en route: stonking cliffs at Benbane Head, cows swaying along White Park Bay beach and pretty Ballintoy harbour. The Bushmills Inn is

a smart stop midway over two full days. **Details** B&B doubles from £150 (bushmillsinn.com)

VALE OF EWYAS MONMOUTHSHIRE

To sense the true beauty of the Welsh countryside you should circuit the Vale of Ewyas. Above the car park at the ruined Llanthony Priory, Offa's Dyke Path bowls south along the Hatterall Ridge: a kaleidoscope of fields lapping to the Malvern Hills, hulking mountains west, wild ponies on the moors and red kites in vast skies. No wonder the monks settled here. End with a pint in the priory's gothic cellar bar before checking in to the Bear Hotel in Crickhowell. **Details** B&B doubles from £135 (bearhotel.co.uk)

ENNERDALE CUMBRIA

There are plenty of rugged day hikes in the Lake District. A seven-mile circuit of Ennerdale Water is not one of those, although its easy route has many of the things you seek in the region: peace (this

is the only lake without a road beside it); nature, thanks to a rewilding project; and mountains bunched like knuckles at the lake's end. To get among them, use the shore-side path as a launchpad to summit Pillar and Great Gable. Bed down nearby at the Bridge Hotel in Buttermere. **Details** B&B doubles from £199 (bridge-hotel.com)

KNOYDART PENINSULA HIGHLAND

Pack a tent for this epic, 22-mile "walk-in" from Kinloch Hourn village to the remotest pub in mainland Britain, Inverie's Old Forge. Where the road peters out beyond the village a 55,000-acre wilderness takes over. You're now alone in the majesty of the west Highlands: the tide

lapping at Munros, stags looming from ancient forests, a candlelit bothy overnight at Barrisdale Bay. A pint at journey's end never tasted sweeter. **Details** Bothy and camping £5pp honour payment **James Stewart**



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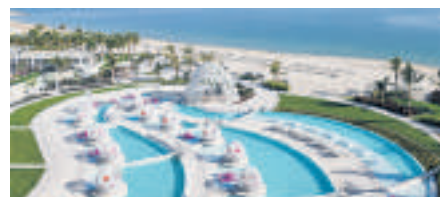
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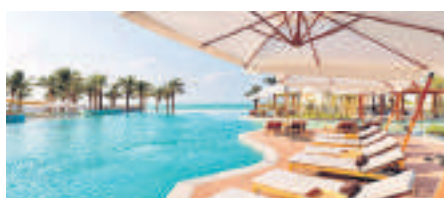


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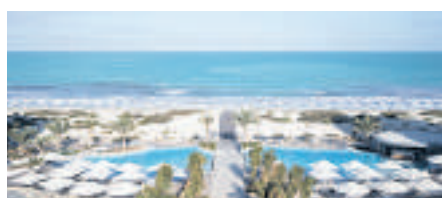
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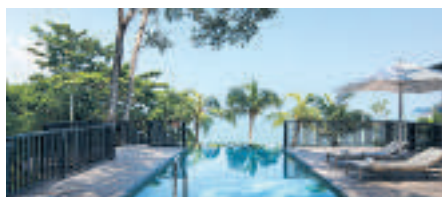
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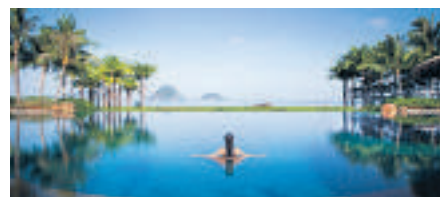
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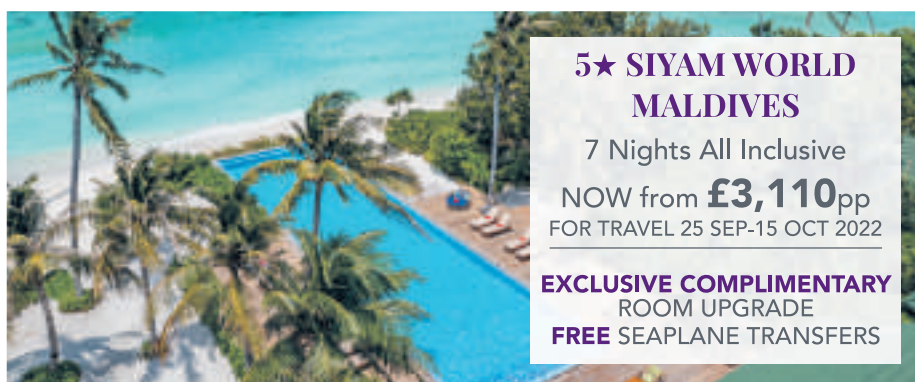
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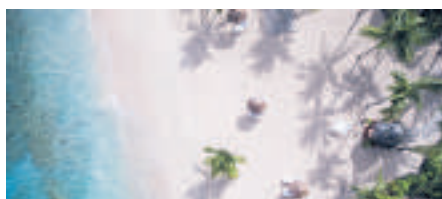


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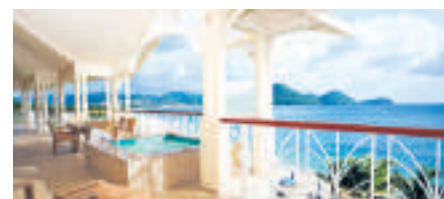
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## THE ITINERARY IN BRIEF

**Day 1 London to Barbados.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to Sea Cloud II and embark. Sail this evening.

**Day 2 Charlotteville, Tobago.** Spend the morning at sea before we arrive in Tobago and anchor in the small fishing village of Charlotteville, situated in Man of War Bay. An afternoon island drive will take us to the Main Ridge Rainforest, home to numerous species of birds, reptiles and flora as well as scenic views over the island. Return to the ship via the Argyle Waterfall, an impressive three-tiered fall with a 54 metre drop that is set in the rainforest where we can take a refreshing swim in one of the natural rock pools.

**Day 3 St George's, Grenada.** Explore this wonderful Windward Island which many regard as the most beautiful in the Caribbean. It is a lush and verdant island with spice plantations, rum distilleries, tropical forests, secluded coves, nature trails and select hotels which cling to the hillsides overlooking the ocean. We will moor in the picturesque capital of St George's at lunchtime before heading to Fort George. Continue to a spice garden to learn about the herbs that grow here before we end at one of the island's finest rum distilleries.

**Day 4 Bequia, Grenadines.** We have the morning on this delightful Grenadine island which is totally unspoilt and a place of pure escapism with a charming old-world atmosphere. Only seven miles by two it is a long way from the well beaten tourist track, a serene and peaceful island with some of the best beaches in the Caribbean. We will use the Zodiacs to land at Port Elizabeth where there will be some time at leisure to explore at your own pace or wander to a nearby beach. Those feeling active can make their way to Fort Hamilton offering views over the bay.

**Day 5 Cabrits, Dominica.** Stepping back in time, the island of Dominica is still the primitive garden that Columbus first sighted in 1493. An area of tropical rainforests, there are flowers of incredible beauty and animals that exist nowhere else in the world. We arrive this afternoon in the small port of Cabrits, just below the national park and the former British garrison of Fort Shirley, which successfully repelled a French attack during the Trafalgar campaign in 1805. Here you can climb to the fort to explore the ruins, visit the small museum or perhaps simply wander the surrounding trails on the lookout for birds, hermit crabs and lizards.

**Day 6 Little Bay, Montserrat.** Ask any Caribbean connoisseur about their favourite places and Montserrat will always be high on the list. Learn about the indigenous flora and fauna at the Botanical gardens before we visit the volcano observatory and learn how the islanders coped with the devastation which the volcanic eruptions of 1995 and

2010 caused. From Richmond hill we can see the impact of the eruptions before walking through the buried city of Plymouth itself. We will also see some of the untouched areas which are as beautiful as ever.

**Day 7 Charlestown, Nevis.** This morning we will land by tender on one of the loveliest and least developed islands on the Leewards. British naval history is linked with most of the Leeward Islands and on Nevis the connection is particularly interesting. It was here that Nelson met Fanny Nesbit and later married her in the old Montpelier House, on the site where a hotel now stands. The island is also the birthplace of Alexander Hamilton, one of the founding fathers of the United States of America. Our tour of the island will include Nelson's Museum, Hamilton's Museum and the Fig Tree Church. This afternoon we hope to find a bay to take a swim from the ship.

**Day 8 Basseterre, St Kitts.** We will make a landing this morning on the delightful island of St Kitts. This lovely island has it all, restful green fields of sugar cane plantations, rainforests and long stretches of uncrowded beaches. The atmosphere here is wonderfully relaxed and full of old-world charm. Choose to either wander the streets of Basseterre with its colonial buildings or see the impressive UNESCO fortress at Brimstone Hill. This 18th century British garrison played a key role in the battles with the French and is situated on a hill offering fine views over to Nevis.

**Days 9 & 10 British Virgin Islands.** These islands are recognised throughout the seafaring world as one of the finest sailing areas. The 36 islands and cays sit in a dazzling turquoise sea surrounded by beautiful coral reefs. We have a day and a half here and will drop anchor and use our Zodiacs or local tenders to explore. We may make calls at the islands of Virgin Gorda, Jost Van Dyke and Tortola. We will enjoy island drives and allow for time to relax on the beautiful beaches.

**Day 11 Gustavia, St Barthelemy.** We arrive over lunch at this tiny French West Indian island which is proud of its reputation as a stylish and exclusive tropical resort. Tenders will take us ashore to the island capital of Gustavia which offers gourmet restaurants, street cafés and smart shops which would not be out of place on the French Riviera.

**Day 12 St John's, Antigua.** Antigua was one of the main British Naval bases in the Windward Islands and so our voyage under sail would not be complete without a visit to this island with so much important history. During a morning island drive we will visit the beautifully restored 18th century dockyard in English Harbour and see the impressive collection of restored historic buildings which were occupied by the British Navy from 1707 till 1899.

**Day 13 Iles des Saintes, Guadeloupe.** The eight island Iles des Saintes archipelago dots the waters off the southwest coast of Guadeloupe. In 1782, this was the site of one of the greatest naval battles of the sailing era, in which the tactics used by the British admiral Sir George Rodney foreshadowed those used 20 years later by Nelson at Trafalgar. This morning tender ashore and explore at leisure or take a walk up to Fort Napoleon and visit the museum.

**Day 14 Soufriere, St Lucia.** St Lucia is a splendidly rugged island of towering mountains, lush green valleys and acres of banana plantations. Due to its strategic position, the island was fought over repeatedly by the French and British and changed hands fourteen times. We will anchor in sight of St Lucia's best-known feature, the twin peaks of the Pitons, which rise dramatically from the sea to more than 2400 feet. In the nearby town of Soufriere we can visit the bubbling Sulphur springs, part of a low lying volcano which erupted thousands of years ago. Our tour will also include the splendid botanical gardens.

**Day 15 Barbados to London.** Disembark this morning and will take an island drive including visits to the historic 17th century Sunbury Plantation House and the impressive St John's Church. After lunch we have some free time before transferring to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

**Day 16 London.** Arrive this morning.



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# MY HOLS FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA

The director lunched with  
Putin in Moscow and Zelensky  
in California, and loved Syria

“I grew up in the US as an Italian-American. My father was a musician and, luckily, musicians knew where to go for good food in New York, so we had great Jewish, Russian and German meals.

As a child, I never lived for more than a year in one place; we were always moving between New York and California, which were very different cities then. In New York there were comic-book shops, toys and a soda fountain with Coke; California just had huge drugstores.

My grandfather always told stories about Bernalda, in the Basilicata region of Italy, and in 1962 I became the first of my US-born family to go there. I’d won the Goldwyn writing prize and bought a new Alfa Romeo Giulietta Spider, which I picked up in Milan. I drove it to Ireland, then to Dubrovnik for a film job, and from there took a ferry to southern Italy.

I was close to Bernalda but couldn’t really speak Italian, so I went there and said: “My grandfather was Augustino Coppola – are there relatives here?” I was told about his cousin and drove to her house. It was getting late so I asked if



Francis Ford Coppola visited relatives in the Basilicata region of Italy

there was somewhere I could stay, but there wasn’t a hotel or even restaurant in the town. Instead my relatives took me to the home of a couple they knew. The husband showed me to their bedroom and said that I should stay there. After I had got into bed, he got in the other side; I don’t know where his wife slept, but in the morning she was there with coffee – it was strange, but they were so kind. Now all my family love Basilicata.

My most unforgettable trip was to Syria, before the war there. It was beautiful and the food unbelievable. Aleppo was spectacular, and I went to Palmyra too. Syrians are the nicest people – so sweet. It’s a tragedy that Aleppo is rubble now.

I get invited to a lot of places because I made *The Godfather*. I’ve been to Moscow for lunch with President Putin, who was extremely talkative and spoke perfect English. I told him that I visited the city in the Soviet era and found it a very dark place – if you wanted soup or a sandwich there you had to go to a hotel. When I said that now

it is all lit up it is more like New York, he just said: “It’s better than New York.”

Last September I received a phone call telling me that President Zelensky was in Washington with his government visiting President Biden, and they all love the film too. So we threw a lunch for them at my Inglenook winery in California – Zelensky was quite shy; you wouldn’t have realised that he was going to emerge such a hero.

When I was 16 I ended up in first class after almost missing a flight. This angel of an airline employee said, “Well, you’re late and the plane is full – honey, you’re going into first class,” then brought me caviar and champagne. I also had cognac and flambéed crêpes suzette. When you’re 16 you don’t appreciate things like that, and by the time I got off the plane I was drunk. First class is not like that now.

My wife loves Japan, so we planned to go there with the family, then on to Vietnam, which is the most wonderful place. But while in Japan she fell ill with a terrible cold and had to go home. I wanted so much to show her Vietnam because it’s my favourite country in Asia.

Ho Chi Minh City is all young people, and you can take your whole family on a motorcycle taxi – it’s crazy. Hanoi is more a classic colonial place, where I like to stay in the Somerset Maugham suite at the Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi.

Travel is all about going to places and meeting people and learning about their history; it’s understanding that not all neighbourhoods are scary.

People are generally nice and kind – we’re all part of the human family. I’ve learnt that utopia is not a place, it’s a conversation in which you ask the right questions.

Interview by Cathy Adams

*Francis Ford Coppola, 83, has directed 22 feature films, including The Godfather, the 50th anniversary of which is being marked this year. He starts shooting his next film – Megalopolis, with Nathalie Emmanuel and Adam Driver – in New York in November. He lives in California with his wife, the film director and writer Eleanor Coppola*

## COMPETITION

### WIN A LUXURY BREAK FOR TWO AT CHEWTON GLEN IN HAMPSHIRE

#### WHERE WAS I?

We were supposed to be heading west on a motorway, towards a port. But according to my friend a window of opportunity had opened. We had to jump through.

I refused. I’d been promised a day of fabulous art and fascinating museums. Why detour? “We’ve known each other for so long,” Friend begged. “Trust me, will you?”

I relented, and rather enjoyed myself. Perhaps it’s because I’m a glass half-full person, but I was captivated by the industrial history and inventiveness of the town we visited, three miles north of junction 7. In part it had owed its success to its abundant fuel supplies, and all kinds of products were involved – whether fragile, foaming or medicinal.

My favourite spot was a heritage centre, focused on a material that’s still produced here. But I also loved the giant, 21st-century sculpture between the motorway and

the town’s southern edge. Its colour (or rather, lack of it) stands in striking contrast with what once lay beneath.

Friend said that this was only the warm-up act. A second town, 4½ miles northeast of the sculpture, was even more fascinating – thanks to a large foundry that once stood at its southern tip. “And a singer who grew up there,” he added, without saying who.

I hesitated. “Come on,” said Friend. “I’m never going to let you down.” So 15 minutes later he parked on a residential street in the second town. “Is this it,” I asked. “Oh yes,” crowed Friend – and he unleashed a hit 1987 song on the car stereo. Oh no – *him*. I buried my head in my hands: pranked.

Sean Newsom

#### THE QUESTIONS

- 1 What is the name of the giant sculpture?
- 2 What was the name of the foundry in the second town?



#### THE PRIZE

The winner and guest will stay for two nights, B&B, at Chewton Glen – the five red-star Relais & Châteaux hotel and spa in Hampshire. Set in 130 acres of woodland and gardens between the New Forest and the south coast, it has long been a front-runner in England’s

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There are two restaurants: the TV chef James Martin runs the Kitchen, which is surrounded by the raised

beds that supply many of its ingredients; at the more formal Dining Room guests can choose between à la carte and tasting menus. One dinner for two at the Dining Room, excluding drinks, is included in the prize. For details see [chewtonglen.com](http://chewtonglen.com).

The prize must be taken before March 31, 2023, subject to availability and excluding public holidays and December 12 to 31.

#### HOW TO ENTER

Only one entry per person, at [thesundaytimes.co.uk/wherewasi](http://thesundaytimes.co.uk/wherewasi) by Wednesday. Normal Times Newspapers rules apply. No correspondence will be entered into.

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The answers are the River Orwell and Erwarton Hall. Roland Law of East Sussex wins a luxury break in Devon at the Harbour Beach Club Hotel & Spa in Salcombe.



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Cagliari, Sardinia



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# BUSINESS & MONEY



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**FOOTBALL CLUB CRYPTO CRASH**  
MONEY PAGE 12

## Nuclear power stations in talks to cap price rises

**Jon Yeomans**

Nuclear power giant EDF is in talks with ministers over a voluntary price cap on its electricity to help shield households from soaring energy prices.

The government has pledged to break the historic link between electricity and gas prices that has meant lower-cost forms of energy, such as nuclear and wind, are being charged at the same rate as gas, which has

rocketed in price since Russia crimped exports.

Matt Sykes, managing director of EDF's generation business, which operates all of Britain's five remaining nuclear plants, said: "To help reduce bills for consumers, while global gas prices remain high, EDF has entered negotiations with government to explore a voluntary pricing mechanism for the output from its nuclear fleet."

Sykes noted that most of

EDF's output for next year had already been sold ahead at a much lower price than the market rate for gas and therefore it had "not benefited from high, short-term prices".

EDF indicated that a cap on its prices was preferable to market volatility. "The industry likes stable returns," Sykes said.

British Gas owner Centrica, which owns a 20 per cent stake in Britain's nuclear fleet, also backed a

voluntary scheme, The Guardian reported.

Ministers are looking at ways to introduce voluntary "contracts for difference" (CfDs) on older wind and solar farms, which have benefited from the recent surge in energy prices even though their costs have remained low.

Energy UK, which represents generators and suppliers, thinks a voluntary CfD scheme could cut bills by up to £18 billion from next

year, knocking about £250 off household bills. However, setting up such a scheme could be a slow process, involving bilateral meetings between government and suppliers, and the redrafting of historic contracts.

Dhara Vyas at Energy UK conceded "the power market needs to be modernised" as consumers were not "fully benefiting from the cheapest forms of electricity right now". But she warned: "It is a job to unpick contracts with

energy generators, which is why I don't think it can be rushed. It's something that you have to consider in time for next winter."

Energy retail suppliers are expected to begin writing to customers next week to confirm the prices they will pay from October 1. The prime minister, Liz Truss, said last week that household energy bills would be capped at £2,500 a year after the government stepped in to pay a portion of costs over the

next two years. Some suppliers will have to correct earlier letters sent out before the intervention was announced.

Meetings between officials and energy companies will continue this week even as the government observes a period of mourning for the Queen. MPs will have to pass some legislation to enable the introduction of the new price cap when the House of Commons returns after the Queen's funeral.

# Economy braces for chill as the nation mourns

Restaurants, bars and concert venues see bookings cancelled in the sombre mood, but hopes rise of a coronation bounceback next year

Robert Watts and Sabah Meddings

Providing a fitting send-off for the Queen threatens to accelerate the UK's slide into recession, forecasters have warned.

Economists suspect a much-wanted national holiday on the day of the funeral will lower output by at least £2 billion and ensure that GDP shrinks for a second consecutive quarter – the technical definition of a recession.

However, the outlook remains mixed and uncertain. Behavioural economists said that the impact of the Queen's death will be very different from the "lightening strike" of Princess Diana's demise 25 years ago, which triggered a flurry of profit warnings from companies as customers reined in their spending.

Experts also suspect the coronation of the new King will provide an economic stimulus.

The economy contracted by 0.1 per cent during the second quarter of this year. Panmure Gordon had previously expected UK GDP would grow by 0.1 per cent in the current quarter, but it now believes that this figure will fall to -0.1 per cent because the Queen's funeral was confirmed as a public holiday yesterday.

Deutsche Bank had predicted GDP growth of 0.2% for the third quarter. But

the bank now expects that number will be either flat or negative, Nomura also suspects a negative number for the quarter is "likely".

Simon French, chief economist at Panmure Gordon, said that analysis of previous one-off bank holidays in 2002, 2012 and earlier this year had lowered economic output by at least £2 billion.

French said: "There are few parallels for this moment and that makes forecasting particularly difficult. We may not simply be talking about an extra bank holiday. There could be a prolonged period of national mourning."

Many businesses chose not to open the morning after the Queen's death was announced. Bookmakers including William Hill and Ladbrokes, as well as upmarket retailers Selfridges and Liberty, were among those closed on Friday.

A number of sports events have been



Economists fear that a prolonged term of mourning will push the UK into recession

rearranged. Although play at the summer's final Test match resumed at the Oval yesterday, this weekend's Premier League football matches have been postponed.

Alex Hill, chief executive of AEG Europe, which owns stadiums such as the O2 Arena in London, said that cancelled events would probably be rescheduled for the coming weeks. "There will be events going on sale over the course of the next week – we would see then whether there is an impact. The anticipation is that most promoters would continue to do those, thinking it would be a worse impact to push it back."

Nick Varney, the executive chairman of Merlin Entertainments, owner of Alton Towers and Madame Tussauds, closed Legoland Windsor on Friday, and will do the same on the day of the Queen's funeral.

Nevertheless, the fall in output will be far smaller than that recorded during the three periods of lockdown at the height of the pandemic. The FTSE 100 ended the week at 7,351.07 – up almost 1 per cent over five days of trading.

Hugh Osmond, the former boss of Pizza Express, said bookings across his Coppa Club restaurants were down about 10 per cent on Thursday night and Friday,

and some consumers cancelled bookings. "There's quite a lot of people who feel they should cancel stuff," he said. "But I don't think it's going to be material in the grand scheme of things."

Oxford University's Johannes Abeler, a professor specialising in behavioural economics, cited extensive academic research suggesting national events such as sporting fixtures can have an impact on the financial decisions individuals take, such as making significant purchases or taking a new job.

Abeler said: "Seemingly irrelevant events on the national stage can influence people's mood and with it their economic perceptions and expectations."

"Many will find the Queen's death very sad, but it was not unexpected as she was elderly and her health had been a concern. This is very different from the death of Diana, who was 36 years old. That came as a lightning strike."

Nida Broughton, director of economic policy at the Behavioural Insights Team, said: "People are especially sensitive to how we see others react ... if they are going out, whether they are spending or not. Our research with Covid found that those social cues were very important – when people saw others going out, that's what rebuilt consumer confidence."

### REISS ON THE RISE



The return of public events boosted the demand for Reiss's clothing

Upmarket fashion retailer Reiss is bucking the high street gloom with bumper sales after bouncing back into the black last year, writes Sam Chambers.

The chain, now majority owned by Next, reported pre-tax profits of £34.4 million on sales of £256.6 million in the year ending January 29. Sales have since risen by 38 per cent in the following six months of this year.

Reiss chief executive Christos Angelides attributed the performance to the strength of its

product range, the return of events boosting demand for formal clothes and a handful of new store openings.

Founder David Reiss grew the business from a gentleman's outfitters in the City to a major fashion brand, which today trades from 62 UK stores and concessions in John Lewis. More than 30 per cent of Reiss's sales are made overseas.

Reiss has handed over the operation of its online business to Next to give customers faster deliveries and the ability to collect orders from more locations.

## Wilko acts to stave off cashflow squeeze as high street suffers

Sam Chambers

Discount retailer Wilko is unilaterally changing its schedule of rent payments to conserve cash, as high street chains buckle under cost pressures.

Wilko has told landlords it will pay its quarterly rent bill in monthly instalments to manage cashflow as it stocks up for Christmas. The family-owned discounter blamed the move on "supply-chain volatility" and the "inflation we're all currently suffering".

Separately, Wilko is working with debt experts from Interpath Advisory on a refinancing of its £37.5 million revolving credit facility. A source close to the talks said

an agreement with the retailer's lenders was close.

"Trading is tough for everybody ... we're having to make smart choices," said chief executive Jerome Saint-Marc. "We're confident in our financial stability and have strong plans for the future. No covenants have been breached on our current facility."

Wilko has been hit hard by supply-chain disruption, high freight costs and rising wage bills. The 14 per cent slide in the pound against the dollar this year is set to heap more pressure on chains such as Wilko, which is reliant on sourcing dollar-denominated products from Asia.

The Wilkinson family has

grown Wilko from a single hardware shop in Leicester in 1930 to a nationwide chain of 402 stores, selling everything from cans of deodorant to greenhouses.

In the year to January 2021, the company reported pre-tax profits of £4.4 million on sales of £1.36 billion.

Wilko was designated an essential retailer during the pandemic and permitted to remain open. Despite holding onto business rates relief, which many essential retailers opted to repay, dividends of £3.75 million have been paid to a family-owned holding company since March 2020. Wilko returned furlough support to the Treasury.

## Meggitt chief scoops £3.5m from takeover

Sabah Meddings

Bosses at Meggitt will receive millions of pounds after the £6.3 billion sale of the FTSE 100 aerospace and defence giant received final approval.

Tony Wood, chief executive since 2018, will receive £3.5 million for his 434,227 shares in Meggitt, and long-term incentive awards, after the sale to Parker-Hannifin of the US was cleared by a British court on Friday.

The approval triggered the vesting of thousands of shares for Wood and his fellow executives, including finance director Louisa Burdett, who will receive at least £890,512 for her 111,814 shares. Wood, 56, used to be head of the

civil aerospace business at Rolls-Royce.

Meggitt shareholders approved the 800p-a-share sale to Parker last September. The company traces its roots back to the world's first altitude meter for hot air balloon in 1850.

Earlier this year, Kwasi Kwarteng, then business secretary, cleared the way for the deal to be completed after Parker said it would keep Meggitt's HQ in Coventry, increase investment in research and development, and protect jobs.

Meggitt's clients include Rolls-Royce, Boeing and Airbus. It also supplies the MoD and provides parts for the RAF's Typhoon fighters.

## Inflation set to fall... but only until the new energy bills land

Jill Treanor

Inflation figures this week may offer a temporary respite from its historic highs.

Some economists predict that data for August, released on Wednesday, will show inflation falling from July's 10.1 per cent, ending months of rises for hard-pressed households. Economists at Nomura think it could dip to 9.9 per cent, and at Barclays to 9.7 per cent.

The fall in petrol prices during August – by about 6 per cent – and a slower rise in the cost of second-hand cars may have eased inflation.

The call is finely balanced, though, with Capital Economics saying those

factors will be outweighed by rises in clothing and furniture prices to keep inflation above 10 per cent.

If the cost of living does dip in August, it will rise again as energy bills go up in October – even if the hike will be limited by the energy price guarantee from the government. Economists have said the £2,500 cap will take four to five percentage points off the inflation rate that the UK would have suffered otherwise.

Economists at Goldman Sachs – who until recently had a worst-case scenario for inflation of 22 per cent – now expect it to peak at about 10 per cent in October.

The changing profile of

inflation will have implications for the Bank of England, which is expected to raise interest rates on September 22 after this week's rates meeting was postponed. However, concern is mounting over the inflation rate for businesses as the energy guarantee protects them for only six months.

Mats Persson, a partner at the consultancy EY-Parthenon, warned of a cliff edge at the end of that period.

"Businesses must use the six-month bridge the government has provided to pull every lever to limit cost impacts in the spring," he said.



# FEAR STALKS THE CATWALK

As designers prepare for a subdued London Fashion Week, *Matilda Davies* explores a tough global market for the luxury brands

## TROUBLE IN CHINA

● London Fashion Week is set to go ahead this week, albeit without its UK champion Burberry, which cancelled following the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

The British Fashion Council-run event comes amid tough times for an industry facing economic crisis in designer label-loving China.

Consultants Oliver Wyman estimate that 81 per cent of global spending on high-end designer brands came from China in 2021. But lockdowns under Beijing's zero-Covid policy have damaged the industry.

The youth unemployment rate in China is now more than 19 per cent, reducing the market for expensive items among Gen Z consumers. Burberry, LVMH (whose brands include Louis Vuitton, Moët Hennessy, Dior and Givenchy) and Kering (owner of Gucci, Balenciaga, Saint Laurent and others) relied on Asian consumers for 46, 32 and 38 per cent of their global revenues respectively last year,



## HEY, BIG SPENDER

● Since the pandemic, luxury brands have been raising prices in the face of increased supply-chain costs caused by labour shortages and higher prices for raw materials.

The desirability of top-end brands among their wealthy customers has allowed them to do this and so prop up their profit margins. According to a report by the consultancy McKinsey, margins at the discount brands have dropped by almost 8 per cent.

Some price rises have been extreme. Analysis by Reuters revealed that a Chanel handbag that cost €4,550 in November 2019 was €7,750 (£6,740) this March — an increase of more than 70 per cent. Similarly, Bernstein Research found that the price of a Louis Vuitton bag in China rose 25 per cent in February.



ILLUSTRATION: JAMES COWEN



The tumbling pound has piled pressure on importers, stoked inflation and cast doubt over the new PM's plans to grow the economy. *Jill Treanor* asks if a rally could be in sight

Every time the pound drops on the foreign exchange markets, it creates problems for Chris Vincent. He imports oak for the home improvements business he runs with his brother in Woking, Surrey – and has to pay for it in dollars.

“It’s affected us a lot – the pound becoming weaker,” said Vincent, 45, managing director of V4 Woodflooring.

When he sells the flooring to his customers across Britain, he takes a hit to profit margins as he sells it in pounds.

Last week, sterling collapsed to its lowest level against the dollar since 1985 – evoking memories of when Margaret Thatcher was prime minister.

Exchange rates have been volatile – “It’s a bit of a rollercoaster,” said Vincent

– but for now the pound seems stuck on a downward loop, hitting as low as \$1.1406 before ending the week roughly where it started, but still 14 per cent down on the year.

While Vincent hopes to avoid passing on his import pain by raising prices to his customers – and at the moment, the falling cost of shipping containers is helping to negate the currency effect – a sterling revival would make life easier. But he said: “I don’t know how they’ll make the pound stronger.”

His remarks will resonate with any business importing goods into Britain. Last week, the FTSE 100 conglomerate Associated British Foods, owner of the clothing chain Primark, warned that the strong dollar – and other rising costs – would knock profits next year. Other companies are likely to make similar statements.

**\$1.16**  
Current value of sterling against the dollar

**\$1.06**  
One currency strategist says the pound has further to fall

Economists are trying to work out just how low sterling could fall in a trend that will concern Liz Truss as she looks for ways to finance her £150 billion energy support package. There are also implications for Bank of England governor Andrew Bailey, who had been expected to preside over an interest rate rise on Thursday – a move that has now been postponed until September 22 to allow mourning for the Queen.

**The interest rates arms race**  
Since December’s rate rise from the Covid low of 0.1 per cent, the Bank has pushed up the cost of borrowing to 1.75 per cent to try to tame an inflation rate driven by the rise in energy prices that Truss is now promising to dampen. However, central banks are locked in

the equivalent of an arms race over interest rates; the higher their rates relative to those in other countries, the stronger their currency.

That is one of the reasons why, until recently at least, sterling’s weakness has been blamed on the dollar’s strength as Jay Powell, chairman of the US Federal Reserve, has ramped up US interest rates to between 2.25 and 2.5 per cent in the fight to quell spiralling inflation. Next week, the day before the Bank makes its move, the Fed seems poised for a third consecutive 75 basis points rise.

At the start of August, when the Tory leadership battle was raging and uncertainty abounded over Truss’s economic policies and plans for tax cuts, traders detected weakness in the pound that was not just related to the dollar. Sterling started to fall against a basket of currencies,

**1.75%**  
The UK interest rate – it is 2.25-2.5% in the US

**8.3%**  
of GDP – the UK’s current account deficit in the first quarter

said Chris Turner, global head of markets at ING, and is down 4 per cent against that basket since last month.

The pound is also down about 3.5 per cent against the euro since the beginning of August – although the euro is also weaker against the dollar. The European Central Bank is in rate rise mode, too – hiking by 75 basis points last week.

Central bankers are not helped in their fight against inflation by weak currencies, because they drive up the prices of imports – be that clothing from Primark, or flooring, or food and energy.

“Right now, policymakers around the world would much prefer strong currencies to help in the battle against largely imported inflation,” said Turner.

For Paul Dales, chief UK economist at the research firm Capital Economics, the weak pound could pose another prob-

## Asos accused of steering ‘soft landing’ on City news

**Sam Chambers**

Asos is facing accusations of attempting to manufacture a “soft landing” in the City ahead of weak results published last week.

In phone calls before its financial year-end, the fast-fashion retailer is understood to have privately told analysts that the rate of customer orders being returned had failed to improve, indicating that profits would be towards the bottom end of the £20 million to £60 million range provided in June.

Returns are costly to process and have a particularly big bearing on profitability for fast-fashion retailers, which operate on low margins.

Asos is also said to have indicated to City analysts that consensus estimates for sales growth of 11 per cent in the coming year were likely to be

too high. “What they [Asos] has done seems to suggest they were aiming for a ‘soft landing’ in the market.

“It creates a very worrying precedent,” said Sarah Wilson, head of governance adviser Minerva.

Last Friday, Asos issued a statement to the stock exchange that profit for the year ended August 31 was anticipated to be “around the bottom end” of guidance.

The average analyst estimate for profits stood at £28 million. Brokers including Jefferies and Panmure Gordon cut their profits and sales figures in the days leading up to Friday’s announcement.

A source close to Asos said the Financial Conduct Authority was satisfied its pre-close calls did not breach any regulations.

City analysts are primarily a conduit of information to

institutional investors, rather than retail shareholders, raising questions over whether the briefings adhered to Financial Reporting Council guidance that all shareholders have access to the same information.

“It should be available to everybody on equal terms, but what appears to be happening is that a group of people are getting priority treatment,” said Cliff Weight of ShareSoc, the UK individual shareholders society.

Asos said in a statement: “Providing analysts with pre-close calls is [standard] City practice.

“Asos is fully aware of all its reporting obligations as a publicly quoted company. We have clear policies and processes to ensure equality of information to the financial markets.”

## Acorn’s stairlift to dividend heaven

**Robert Watts**

One of Yorkshire’s leading entrepreneurs has paid himself a record dividend of more than £50 million despite cutting 150 jobs.

John Jakes, 66, set up stairlift manufacturer Acorn Mobility Services 30 years ago. He had initially fixed the devices before starting to make his own when parts became harder to find.

Keighley-based Acorn grew profits to £57.7 million on sales of £236.6 million in the year to the end of September 2021. In the same year, Jakes, who chairs and still owns all of the business, received dividends of £50.8 million – a sum almost twice the size of any made in previous years.

But the Monaco-based businessman’s record payout coincided with a 10 per cent reduction in Acorn’s workforce. “Following a

detailed review of operating efficiencies ... the group average headcount decreased from 1,460 to 1,310,” the latest accounts state.

Acorn declined to respond to questions about whether the business had received taxpayer support during the pandemic, or whether Jakes is resident for UK tax.

A higher-rate British taxpayer would have been liable for tax of more than £19 million on dividends of £50.8 million.

Joanne Richardson, 45, finance director, described Acorn’s latest results as “very positive” and evidence that “the steps we took to limit the impact of the pandemic were effective. Those measures, combined with the dedication and flexibility of Acorn’s workforce, have helped us endure one of the most challenging periods in the company’s history.”

## Vehicles float aims to cash in on the staffing crisis at airports

**Jon Yeomans**

A maker of driverless vehicles that could solve delays at airports is to list on Aim tomorrow, braving a stock market where there has been a dearth of company floats.

Coventry-based Aurigo, founded by two brothers 30 years ago, makes robot vehicles that can deliver luggage from terminal buildings and automated shuttles to carry passengers.

It plans to raise £10 million in a float valuing the firm at about £30 million.

Aurigo hopes to capitalise on demand for its vehicles, which are designed to ease chaos at airports that have been struggling with a severe shortage of ground crew.

The company has been a supplier of parts to big carmakers such as Jaguar Land Rover for decades, but in 2015 it switched its focus to

autonomous vehicles. It has received £11 million in taxpayer money to advance its work, alongside £5 million of its own funds.

Aurigo – formerly RDM – has been testing its vehicles at Heathrow, Gerald R Ford airport in Detroit, and Changi airport in Singapore.

David Keene, co-founder and managing director, said aviation could be “a super-growth area” for the

**Aurigo’s vehicles will ferry passengers and luggage**



company. “Lack of staff at airports is an international problem and has really put a spotlight on the automation that is required,” he said.

Aurigo’s hardware and software have been developed in house, and it plans to ramp up staff numbers from 60 to 160 in the next year, with some overseas. It is eyeing manufacturing vehicles abroad depending on where it wins customers.

Keene, who still owns the company equally with his brother, acknowledged it was floating during a depressed year for markets. But he said: “The interest from institutional investors has been phenomenal. We took a decision to continue with listing because we couldn’t be held up. Quite frankly, we’ve got a lot of things to deliver.”

Aurigo will float about 40 per cent of the firm on Aim.



LOBBYING FOR CHANGE

● Rishi Sunak’s decision last year to scrap duty-free shopping in the UK for non-EU visitors has proved a huge blow to London’s fashion hub.

The industry lobbied unsuccessfully against the change at the time, which was seen as a populist move to garner support in “red wall” constituencies expected to welcome the closure of a “tax loophole”.

In May, 250 luxury brands including Burberry, Alexander McQueen and Net-a-Porter called for a U-turn, to no avail. The industry is now calling for prime minister Liz Truss to take action. Trade body Walpole said there had been a 38 per cent drop in sales to non-EU visitors since the “tourist tax”. HM Revenue & Customs data showed that more than two-thirds of tourists were influenced to travel to the UK by the chance to shop tax-free, which could mean 600,000 additional tourists.



GENERATION GREEN

● With China’s young people struggling to afford high-end items, luxury fashion brands are diversifying their product ranges to appeal to eco-conscious Gen Zers in North America and Europe, trialling innovative sustainable materials. Stella McCartney and Hermès have created garments from a lab-grown leather material made out of a compound found in mushrooms called mycelium. Prada is using a material made from abandoned fishing nets. Others are branching out into wearable tech. In August, Gucci announced the second iteration of a health-tracking ring, right, it created in collaboration with Oura, the Finnish health tech company. The ring uses body temperature, heart rate and breathing rates to evaluate the wearer’s fitness and sleep cycles, and is emblazoned with the Gucci logo in 18-carat gold.



INTO THE METAVERSE

● Online retail changed the fashion industry for ever, and now brands are being drawn to the concept of buying clothes for digital avatars. This year, the first-ever Metaverse Fashion Week was hosted in Decentraland, a virtual world where people make purchases with cryptocurrency. Dolce & Gabbana, Elie Saab, Estée Lauder and Tommy Hilfiger all featured in virtual fashion shows, exhibitions and concerts where users could buy digital items as non-fungible tokens, as well as physical items in real life.

One appeal of the virtual world is that it gets luxury brands profile-building access to a young, tech-savvy audience and could boost sales of real products. However, the decline of crypto has cast a cloud over the digital fashion market.



lem: “It is a marker of the credibility of the UK economy and the economic outlook.”

That matters to Truss – and her chancellor Kwasi Kwarteng – if they want foreign investors to fund any borrowing programme. It also has a bearing on the current account deficit, which, at 8.3 per cent of gross domestic product in the first quarter, is at a record high. This shows Britain is consuming more than it produces and needs to maintain the confidence of overseas investors to fund the difference. Dales is convinced that it can.



**How will energy guarantee be funded?**

There are other potentially alarming signals. Turner at ING said the big question investors were trying to answer is how Truss will finance her £150 billion energy price guarantee. While she has ruled out a windfall tax, she has not specified where the money would come from, leading economists to assume it will be covered by more government lending.

We may not know the details for some time. She outlined the plan just before the death of the Queen, which sparked a period of mourning that could delay the emergency budget planned for September 21. “Truss ruling out a windfall tax on energy companies puts more pressure on debt financing,” said Turner.

As a result, his colleagues are predicting that the difference in the borrowing costs between Britain and Germany – the bellwether for the eurozone – could rise to two percentage points. That would be the highest level since the Bank of England was granted independence over interest rates 25 years ago.

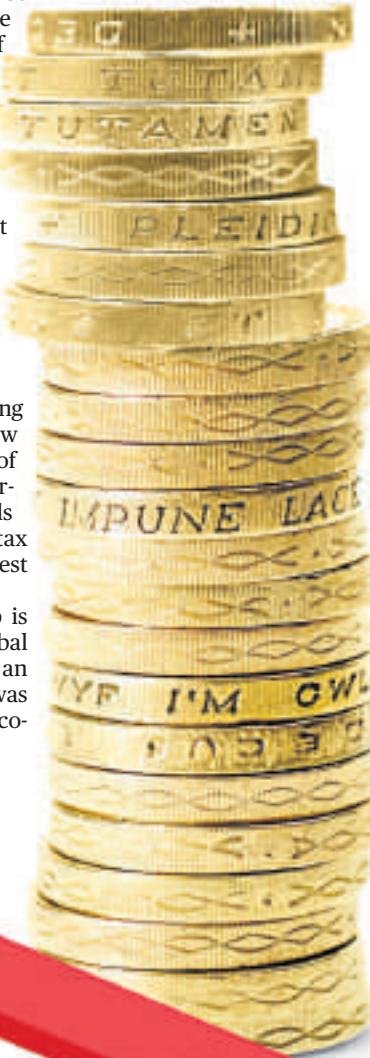
For some, it is a sign that Truss needs to spell out her economic policies and show how she can fulfil her ambition to get the economy growing at 2.5 per cent a year – an improvement on the growth of recent years that would also help alleviate the debt burden, as a growing economy reduces the closely watched debt-to-GDP ratio.

**The case for going for growth**

Few now doubt that Truss and Kwarteng are serious about pushing through new economic policies after the sacking of Tom Scholar, the most senior civil servant in the Treasury, where officials were said to be cautioning that any tax cuts could fuel inflation and force interest rates even higher.

One economist in the Truss camp is Gerard Lyons, former head of global research at Standard Chartered, an adviser to Boris Johnson when he was mayor of London, and now chief eco-

“The value of sterling is a marker of the credibility of the UK economy



nom ic strategist at financial adviser Netwealth. “The very idea that someone having a pro-growth strategy is seen as radical shows how far we’ve moved away from where we should be,” he said.

Lyons added: “There is a mindset that Britain is a low-growth, low-wage, low-productivity and therefore high-taxation economy. We need to fundamentally change that mindset to ask how to get growth higher.”

He sees three “cornerstones”: fiscal, supply-side and monetary policy. On the first of these, he said the UK should ditch all the fiscal rules apart from the key measure of reducing the debt-to-GDP ratio, which would provide fiscal discipline. On the supply side, he advises focusing on “all the Is”: investment, innovation, infrastructure and incentives. That means cutting the green levy, reversing the national insurance rise and bringing forward income tax cuts. That leaves monetary policy to tackle inflation. “[Truss] needs to be radical and realistic – we need to actually stimulate the economy,” said Lyons.

He reckons this can stop the UK sliding into recession – or at least make it more shallow. “A deep recession poses the biggest threat to the public finances. Fixing energy prices and reversing tax increases will help avoid it,” he said.

Truss’s energy price guarantee – capping bills at £2,500 a year to stop them climbing as high as £6,000, as some analysts had predicted – should keep down the headline rate of inflation, and force it to peak sooner. Simon French, chief economist at Panmure Gordon, said inflation would now peak at 10.4 per cent in the fourth quarter of the year.

**The currency conundrum**

It remains to be seen what happens to sterling in the coming days. But as inflation is not going to rise as much as had been expected, the Bank will not need to raise rates as much, said Jordan Rochester, currency strategist at Nomura. “That’s a problem for the foreign exchange market. It means we might attract less inflows with lower interest rates, and at the same time we’ve got bad news coming through on growth.” He reckons the pound could fall even further, to \$1.06.

The first sign inflation is starting to slow could come this week when Nomura sees the consumer prices index for August dropping back from 10.1 to 9.9 per cent.

For some retailers, though, the sinking pound will force them to push through price rises. Roy Kendall, who runs military supplies business Top of the Range, used to put up prices every year; now he is adjusting them monthly. But Dales at Capital Economics, who sees the pound falling to \$1.05 next year, argues the weakness of sterling can benefit the economy because it will help exporters. “That will close the current account deficit and rebalance the economy,” he said.

Melrose tells firms: stop being cowards and float in the UK

The stock exchange works for risktakers, swashbuckling chief tells *Jim Armitage*

Melrose is unlike any other company in the FTSE 100. Part conglomerate, part investment firm, part engineer (mechanical, chemical and financial), for the past two decades it has bought unloved businesses, restructured them, then sold them on, hoping for a profit.

Its management is paid handsomely when the strategy goes well.

If you think that sounds like a private equity firm, you could be forgiven. But there is a big difference. Where Blackstone or CVC raise funds for their deals from private sources – endowments, wealthy families and pension schemes – Melrose gets its capital from the public via the stock market. Everyone from the giant Vanguard tracker funds to the hobbyist retail investor can have a share of the action.

In the 1980s, such companies were not rare. Lord Hanson’s eponymous conglomerate, Sir Owen Green’s BTR and Sir Nigel Rudd’s Williams all had a similar model, albeit without the same focus on selling businesses for a quick profit.

But they fell out of favour with stock market investors in the following decades, ceding control of buccaneering deal-making to the private equity tycoons.

The number of plcs on the London Stock Exchange (LSE) has fallen from 2,864 to 1,978 in the past 20 years as companies have either been bought by private equity firms or foreign buyers, or floated in the US.

Last week, however, Melrose doubled down on its trend-bucking model. It declared that it would have not just one business on the UK stock market, but two.

The plan is to split off its automotive engineering business from its aviation division and list both. They have each been suffering tough markets in the pandemic but should each be big enough to stay in the FTSE 100.

The move was, Melrose bosses said, an endorsement of the much-criticised LSE, which has been accused of being too conservative to attract new companies, overly dominated by mining and banking stocks. “Over the past 20 years, we have grown from a company worth £12 million to £5 billion on the



Engineering is just one of Melrose’s facets

LSE,” said Melrose chief executive Simon Peckham. “And we’ve returned £4.5 billion to shareholders. That’s 20 years of using stock market money to go out, buy businesses and give the money back. We are big fans of the LSE.”

Melrose had no problem winning the support of its London shareholders to buy US ventilation giant Nortek for \$2.8 billion just after the Brexit referendum; likewise with the £8 billion takeover of engineering giant GKN, despite it being a hostile deal, Peckham pointed out.

The markets have not been so kind since, it should be said. Melrose shares have

almost halved since.

After the merger, he added, the plan was for both businesses to keep growing through further acquisitions.

That comes as a contrast to the trend of British plcs being takeover targets for foreign buyers and private equity giants. “It really doesn’t have to be that way,” said Peckham. “The London Stock Exchange is quite capable of supplying companies like ours with quick access to capital, but there seems to be a lack of ambition [in management teams] to do it. People are just too timid.”

The dearth of UK firms doing foreign takeovers has stoked the political rows in recent years about foreign companies buying British plcs, he said: “We want to be in the vanguard of more British acquisition-driven strategies to grow the LSE.”

Several regulatory changes have been made to the listing rules to try to attract more firms, particularly in tech. But Peckham complained there were still too many regulations placed on plcs: “The corporate governance issue has gone too far and made boards risk averse. But business is all about risk.”

Melrose’s takeovers are inherently risky, he added, but the risk can be managed. “Unfortunately,” he said, “too

many British companies are encouraged to be too conservative.”

Cynics say – with justification – that Melrose would have preferred to find a cash buyer for the car parts maker rather than float it. Shareholders would certainly prefer the money, but Peckham said selling it now would be a mistake, given the weak state of the global car market as countries head into recession.

The auto business’s shares are likely to trade at five times the value of its underlying profits when it demerges, against 12 times for the aero arm, which is benefiting from the post-pandemic recovery in the travel industry.

That big differential makes it complicated, in Melrose’s current conglomerate structure, for Peckham to do acquisitions in either sector. If he tries to buy more car components firms, he risks hitting the value of the highly rated aero division, while the low-value automotive assets drag down his firepower to fund aero deals.

Peckham’s criticisms of UK bosses for not using their national stock exchange to raise finance will be met with some opposition, particularly from tech chiefs who tend to list in the US or sell out to private equity there. Only last week, while Darktrace’s US bidder walked away, tech plc GB Group received a bid from a Chicago investment firm.

Cambridge University professor Brian Cheffins said it was rational for UK firms not to float here because the US was a better environment for tech companies. The amount of finance there is vast, and investors are supported by far more experts in researching and evaluating technology.

Big institutional investors in the UK, he added, were not keen on backing tech companies that reinvest their revenues in growing the business rather than paying dividends. “If you are managing a pension fund with an ageing demographic, then you need those dividends, frankly,” he said.

Melrose has made big cash returns to investors, which largely explains why it has been popular with London shareholders. But its clarion call for more companies to join it on the LSE may not be heeded any time soon.

Susie Cummings  
Young people need to gatecrash the City old boys’ club



Bringing up the topic of diversity in the boardroom and you spark one of two reactions: either people roll their eyes because they are sick of the “woke agenda”; or they get fired up by what they see as injustices.

Earlier this year, the opposing sides of this argument played out in California when a court struck down two bills mandating minimum ethnic and gender diversity on public boards on the basis that they violated non-discrimination clauses in the state’s constitution. In other words, in trying to create more diversity, the bills were illegally discriminating against white men.

A similar theme is playing out less explicitly but no less controversially in the UK, where the law draws a clear line between positive action – legal – and positive discrimination – illegal. But board members know that they risk

having their appointments challenged by stakeholders if they don’t enhance the diversity of their board. As a result, many executive search firms are asked for (and provide) “all female” or “all ethnic minority” shortlists, which would probably not stand up to legal scrutiny.

Reaching a consensus on this should matter to us all because boards determine the success or failure of the organisations that shape our society. Few are brave enough to talk openly about diversity in the boardroom because it is an incendiary topic – a microcosm of the polarised, politicised and contradictory world we live in; a world with little room for nuance or the kind of sensible, inclusive discussions that could move things forward.

Most people recognise the value of diversity, but still contentious is what constitutes relevant diversity. The variables are unlimited: as well as the obvious – skills and protected

characteristics – should it include, say, a diversity of experience?

Most boards comprise mainly C-level executives. While the first, second or even third C-level appointment can add huge value to a board, the marginal value of each additional executive appointed thereafter diminishes relative to the value of someone offering a completely different perspective.

Board members are also often recruited in a token way or based on past reputation, without much effort being paid to what they would add to the team. Organisations rarely look beyond the “local village” – those with previous board experience – to identify their next appointment, which is why you end up with the “same old names”.

The risk with such homogenous teams is that they can be prone to “groupthink” – the kind of discussion produced by boardrooms where everyone is a member of the same club, comes from

“Board members are often recruited in a token way

the same culture, or has the same educational background.

This kind of board isn’t just bad from an ethical perspective. It doesn’t just send a negative message to those who can’t see themselves rising to the top for lack of role models. It also diminishes the board’s effectiveness because you might as well have one person coming up with all the ideas and making all the

decisions. Even when organisations are clear about the diversity criteria that will help them “look round corners”, putting together a board can feel like assembling a multi-dimensional puzzle where it’s hard to get all the pieces to fit. Not only that, but the factors are changing constantly. Take the demographic shift in the UK: according to 2011 census data, the total population mix was 87 per cent white, 7.5 per cent Asian, 3.3 per cent black and 2.2 per cent mixed. But within that, there was huge variation by age group and area. Of people in the 60-64 age bracket, 95 per cent were white. But in the 0-4 years, it was 77 per cent.

So a discussion on demographic diversity requires a discussion on age diversity. The average age of a non-executive is about 60 – hardly offering the most diverse range of insights from the younger generations.

But how do you hire young people with the experience to be genuinely

useful in decision making? Some firms are trying by using board apprentice schemes. In these, the candidate receives and reads board packs like the other directors, attends meetings and, when invited, shares their views. The process gives the apprentice the opportunity to learn by observation and participation. And it gives the company the chance to assess the apprentice as a prospective board member. In some cases, at the end of their apprenticeship period, the individual will be offered a position as a board director.

Whatever approach organisations take, we all need to think harder and more analytically about how we go about finding new, fresh-thinking individuals who can offer diverse perspectives without compromising on quality, without losing out on experience, and without alienating anyone.

*Susie Cummings is the founder of Nurole, the board recruitment platform*



# We can still be banking’s super app

## Nikolay Storonsky breaks his silence about the increasing concerns over the fate of Revolut

INTERVIEW  
JILL TREANOR



Nikolay Storonsky is a man under pressure. He is facing worrying questions about the Revolut financial payments app he started eight years ago – and needs to find answers, fast. Key staff are leaving. Auditors are asking questions about its accounts. And graduates are having job offers at Revolut terminated. Most pressing of all, the company still does not have the banking licence that is key to its dreams of world domination.

It is a measure of his concern that Storonsky, 38, has agreed to do an interview at all. But he is not a man to show his emotions easily. When he pops up on screen from Dubai, where he is visiting staff displaced by the war in Ukraine, he is in a bullish mood. He is determined, he says, to prove that Revolut can be a “super app”. “Ultimately, by super app, I mean a global bank, which gives you access to all financial services,” he says. Revolut offers services as diverse as stock trading, hotel bookings and cryptotrading – although the latter service is still pending authorisation from the City regulator, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

With his distinctive blond bob and Russian-accented English, Storonsky retains the look of a start-up founder, perhaps without the swagger. But Revolut, which started as a pre-paid payment card and app, is far bigger than that. The London-based business has gone from a fledgling upstart to a valuation of \$33 billion (£28 billion) in less than a decade. That valuation, in a funding round last year, put Revolut on a par with high street banks Lloyds, Barclays and NatWest. Storonsky, long feted in the start-up world, is now in the big leagues – facing widespread scepticism about whether he can achieve his ambitious targets.

The business appears to be booming – but growth could accelerate into new areas if it can gain a much-coveted UK banking licence. Storonsky told The Sunday Times in January 2021 that customers would be more likely to trust Revolut with their salaries if they were covered by the industry’s Financial Services Compensation Scheme, which protects savings up to £85,000 in the event that a bank goes bust. The FCA currently authorises Revolut under electronic money regulations, which has already allowed it to grow rapidly. Revolut has a banking licence in Lithuania, which has opened the door to banking operations in the European Union.

Gaining a banking licence in the UK requires intense scrutiny of business plans, financial strength and management capability. That Revolut has not been granted one explains why Storonsky is facing so much pressure. Under the Bank of England’s timetable, an answer would usually come within 12 months – hence the scrutiny about why there has not been announcement.

Storonsky insists that the application

is “going very well” and reckons “we’re almost there”. “The reality,” he says, is that when other banks get licences it takes “no more than three years”. “We are a very complex financial institution with more than 20 million customers and more than 5 million in the UK,” he says.

When will it be granted? “It’s not really dependent on me,” he says.

Those sympathetic to Revolut argue that other fintechs (financial technology firms), such as Monzo and Starling, were start-ups with very few customers when they applied for their licences. Monzo has also found international expansion difficult, withdrawing its application for a banking licence last year in the US.

Storonsky, a Russian-born British national, is known for his Stakhanovite work ethic and no-nonsense style. He has amassed a £4.6 billion paper fortune, according to The Sunday Times Rich List.

The Revolut chief does not smile easily – although he does appear to relax when asked about an outburst he made earlier in the year. Speaking at a conference in the City, Storonsky railed against UK regulators’ “principle-driven” approach, arguing it slowed the system.

He claims he was misunderstood and not really complaining – just impatient. “I’m in a start-up, we’re moving so fast, and we want to build the products,” he says. “We have fantastic relations [with the regulators]”. The regulators declined to comment.

The licence is crucial to the growth plans of Revolut. It would open the door to regulators around the world – notably America, where an application is also pending. Storonsky says applications are also outstanding in Australia, Mexico and Brazil. India will come later. “They look to your home regulator,” he says. “Their licence is subject to your home regulator’s licence.”

So without the licence, what happens to the business model? “It definitely will complicate [things],” he says.

The banking licence saga has been going on while Revolut gears up for a float. It has set up a new holding company chaired by the former fund management boss Martin Gilbert and including City luminaries such as Michael Sherwood, the former Goldman Sachs boss.

Gilbert – a gregarious character, a foil to Storonsky’s froideur perhaps – said the Revolut founder is a “good guy, I get on very well with him”. He uses chairman-like language about the licence application: “We’re working closely with the regulators, hopefully we’ll get a banking licence at some stage.”

A separate subsidiary – listed in Companies House as Revolut NewCo UK and overdue in filing its accounts because it is dormant – has been created with a new board, led by former Standard Chartered banker Richard Holmes. It also includes Kitty Ussher, a Treasury minister in the last Labour government.

At the same time, Revolut has been beset by a string of high-profile departures, such as its UK chief risk officer, UK regulatory compliance officer and UK money laundering officer. The last role is seemingly of particular concern given that, in 2018, Revolut reported suspect criminal activity on its system to the UK



Nikolay Storonsky is desperate for a UK banking licence to realise his dream of making Revolut a force in global banking

### THE LIFE OF NIKOLAY STORONSKY

**VITAL STATISTICS**  
Born: July 21, 1984  
Status: married, four children  
School: specialist physics and mathematics school in Moscow  
University: Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology (physics); New Economic School, Moscow  
First job: trader at Lehman Brothers  
Pay: an undisclosed number of shares  
Home: west London  
Car: electric, “not Tesla”  
Favourite book: Principles by Ray Dalio  
Film: “I don’t have time to watch”, but he has Amazon Prime

Music: indie house. “[My taste] changes every year”  
Gadget: iPhone  
Drink: gin and tonic. “It changes very year — I used to like white wine, then red wine”  
Last holiday: Rhodes  
Charity: Red Cross Ukraine Crisis Appeal

**WORKING DAY**  
The founder and chief executive of Revolut gets to the London office in Canary Wharf early, but he always finds time to exercise and makes sure he has enough sleep. Last week he was in Dubai, in back-to-back meetings, visiting a new tech hub created to help staff relocate from Russia and Ukraine following the invasion in February.

**DOWNTIME**  
A former state champion swimmer, Nikolay Storonsky, 38, values his fitness as well as leisure time with his family.

**The Revolut chief likes a G&T, holidays in Rhodes, the book Principles, and the iPhone**

authorities. “The people who left were sitting in a non-operational entity,” says Storonsky. “That didn’t affect anything.” More than 200 people are working in risk and compliance.

He claims talented staff are leaving for better pay. One of the highest profile departures was Deirdre Halligan, global head of regulatory compliance, who left shortly after his remarks about regulation. Is that why she left? No, he says, she got a bigger job for more money in a crypto start-up. Halligan did not respond to a request for comment.

Last week Revolut was hit by reports in the Financial Times that audit regulators had flagged issues in its accounts and that graduates were having their job offers withdrawn under a cost-cutting programme called Prism. Storonsky insists Prism is not cost-cutting but a “mapping exercise of our strategy to our resources”. Another phrase for cost cutting surely? One of the team leaders had decided the graduates hired were not needed. Storonsky gives a typically analytical answer: “That is a 0.2 per cent mistake which in my view is within our acceptance [tolerance].”

Little wonder that hiring practices are being scrutinised given the plight of other big fintechs, notably Klarna, which is cutting 10 per cent of its staff and endured a brutal 85 per cent slump in its valuation to \$6.7 billion last month.

However, Storonsky insists that Revolut is growing, hiring 300 people a month, taking its staff from 2,100 in March last year to more than 5,000. The business has recorded growth of “more

## “The goal is to achieve our mission and become a global bank

than 100 per cent in terms of every metric”, he claims.

This fast pace of growth might illustrate the concerns being raised by its auditors BDO, according to the FT, about revenue recognition and “the risk of an undetected material misstatement” being “unacceptably high”.

Storonsky acknowledges that this helps explain why Revolut’s accounts – filed in July and August in the past two years – are yet to land at Companies House. With only three weeks before becoming officially late, Storonsky appears relaxed. “We are a more complex organisation with more products with more transactions,” he says. Time and money has been spent on making the financial reporting system more sophisticated, he says.

The most recent accounts at Companies House date to the end of 2020 and show a loss of £122 million and revenue of £222 million. Storonsky will not disclose the numbers in the 2021 accounts but says it looks as if “we made a very good profit” – its first since being founded.

That also takes the pressure off the need for further fundraising. Its \$33 billion valuation last year raised \$800 million in a funding round led by SoftBank and Tiger Global Management. It allowed staff to cash in \$150 million of shares.

A first profit for Revolut will be a milestone for Storonsky, who has lived in London since the mid-2000s, when he moved to the UK after studying physics in Moscow. He joined banking giant Lehman Brothers two years before it went bust in 2008, and ended up at Credit Suisse before setting up Revolut.

He has been clear about his opposition to Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. “The war is wrong and totally abhorrent,” he said in early March. His father was born in Ukraine and has a senior research role at Russia’s state-owned energy giant Gazprom. Storonsky dislikes discussion about his private life. He reveals, though, that as a child he spent his summers in Ukraine, where he says he has family members who left for Poland when the war began but have returned.

There is an assumption that Revolut will float next year. A staggering valuation of \$100 billion has been mooted. But Storonsky says that is not the main goal. “The goal is to achieve our mission to become a global bank,” he insists.

The UK banking licence would certainly help with that mission.

# Why Musk’s target should be Glencore, not Twitter

Shortages of rare minerals mean that the electric car giants will be on the skids if they do not take radical action, writes *Jim Armitage*

While Elon Musk has been trying, then not trying, to buy Twitter, General Motors and Ford have been doing far cleverer deals.

They have been striking exclusive supply agreements with mining companies and refiners to buy directly thousands of tonnes of the rare minerals needed to build the electric cars of the future.

Surging demand for electric vehicles has triggered a late realisation among the carmakers that, without access to nickel, cobalt, copper and other metals, they are going to run out of manufacturing road.

EVs use up to four times more copper than petrol vehicles, and the networks of charging stations to keep them running need it too.

Simply sourcing it on the open market, where prices are surging and supplies can be patchy, is too much of a risk, particularly as Chinese producers are ahead of the

game and likely to favour their own carmakers.

Musk was among the first to spot the issue, doing an exclusive deal with UK-listed mining group Glencore to provide Tesla with cobalt from Congo back in 2020.

But, as ever, the Chinese have been thinking more strategically even than that. Last year, Fujian-based battery maker CATL bought a stake in an entire African mine to gain access to cobalt.

Mining companies say car giants have made similar overtures to them, offering to help finance new mines for a guarantee of supplies at an affordable price. But that is fraught with risk and highly expensive. Minerals can prove impossible to get at, or less pure than thought.

However, car companies are desperate – they want new mines to come on stream fast. But miners want the opposite. They burned their shareholders in the last

## \$73bn

Value of Glencore

## \$940bn

Value of Tesla

commodities cycle by overexpanding. This time they are keeping supply tight and prices high. As a mining chief put it: “Our interests are not aligned with the car companies. They tell me to open new mines, I tell them to off off.”

Rather than investing billions of dollars developing new mines, they’re returning the cash to shareholders – \$8 billion from Glencore, \$16 billion from BHP.

Perhaps the only way for a car company to have any guaranteed influence on the miners is to buy a big one outright. Tesla – valued at \$940 billion – could gobble £63 billion Glencore with barely a burp, paying in shares and not shelling out a single dollar of cash.

There’s a problem, though. For all its 140,000 tonnes of nickel, 40,000 tonnes of cobalt and 1.1 million tonnes of copper and zinc – ripe for the EV revolution – Glencore

comes with baggage Musk would hate. A giant coal-mining operation, for one.

Of course, Musk could sell that, but there’s another hitch. Glencore’s mines are in countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, where allegations of child labour and other horrors are rife. Not easy places to proclaim your environmental, social and governance (ESG) cred, as Musk likes to do.

Some experts say it is more likely that carmakers will buy stakes in miners to gain board seats, rather than buy them outright. Mining chiefs may try to wriggle out of supply contracts if a better offer comes along – but if the boss has to sit next to the customer in the boardroom every three months, that is not so likely.

The £54 billion miner Vale could be a tempting target for that, said one mining analyst. It has large EV resources such as cobalt, nickel and copper

in ESG-compliant North America, on which a BMW, VW or Tesla might love to have an inside track.

Whether the German carmakers and their shareholders have the financial appetite is doubtful, but Musk might, and he has the vision to consider it. This weekend, he was reportedly looking at building a lithium refinery (but that still begs the question – where does he get the lithium?)

Nobody knew the value of controlling your supply lines better than Henry Ford. When building his car empire a century ago, he bought the sawmill and forests to provide his wood, the mines for his iron ore and the railroad to get it to his factories.

Vertical integration like that tends to be inefficient and is unfashionable now. But in the case of vital metals for the booming EV market, it makes some sense. More, at least, than buying Twitter.



TECH TALK

DANNY FORTSON IN SAN FRANCISCO

Chip giant faces Arm-ageddon

Britain’s one and only tech champion has ruled the industry, but an open-source software community is storming its citadel

More than a decade has passed since billionaire venture capitalist Marc Andreessen said software was “eating the world”. His words were prescient as the likes of Facebook, Airbnb and Amazon upended the media, hospitality and retail industries. And they did it by taking advantage of free, “open source” software that had flooded the market and made it very cheap and easy to build their world-changing businesses.

Now, a similar phenomenon is invading the semiconductor industry – and threatening Britain’s one and only tech champion, Arm Holdings. Navin Chaddha, managing director of the Silicon Valley venture capital firm Mayfield Fund, said the chip giant is heading for a “world of hurt” as customers opt for a free, open standard built by a community of volunteers. Called Risc-V (pronounced risk five), it is proving an increasingly popular alternative to Arm’s pricey products.

“One executive I was talking to said: ‘The best negotiating strategy when Arm comes in is to have a Risc-V brochure sitting on my desk,’” recalled Jim Feldhan of the specialist semiconductor consultancy Semico Research. “It’s a threat. Arm is just not going to have its super dominant position in five or ten years.”

Arm does not make semiconductors itself but charges large fees to other companies, such as Apple and Samsung, to use its instruction set architecture (ISA) – a kind of blueprint upon which clients can develop and manufacture chips for their devices. Arm powers well over 90 per cent of the world’s smartphones.

The emergence of a plucky competitor such as Risc-V comes at a tricky time for Arm, whose chief executive, Simon Segars, resigned in February after a \$40 billion takeover bid from rival Nvidia fell apart. The Cambridge company’s owner, the Japanese investment giant SoftBank, wants to float it on the stock market but put the plan on ice amid the Tory leadership tussle.

The Conservative MP Tom Tugendhat had been so concerned that he called for Whitehall to buy a “golden share”. The ownership stake would give the government a say in who owns the company at the centre of a world where everything from doorbells to defence systems are being digitised. “We all have skin in this game,” he wrote in May.

Regardless of its ownership, though, Arm is sailing into a storm that threatens to leave an industry it has dominated for decades unrecognisable.

Since the 2000s, Arm and rival Intel have ruled the chip industry. Intel controlled the high-performance end of the market, such as data centres, while Arm grabbed control of much of the rest of it, particularly in smartphones.

It was as a reaction to that duopoly that Risc-V was started in 2010, as a project at the University of California, Berkeley. The creators were inspired by Linux, the quixotic software project formed in 1991 by a young Helsinki programmer called Linus Torvalds. Linux was open source, meaning it relied on a diffuse community of volunteer coders to write, amend and constantly improve software that could

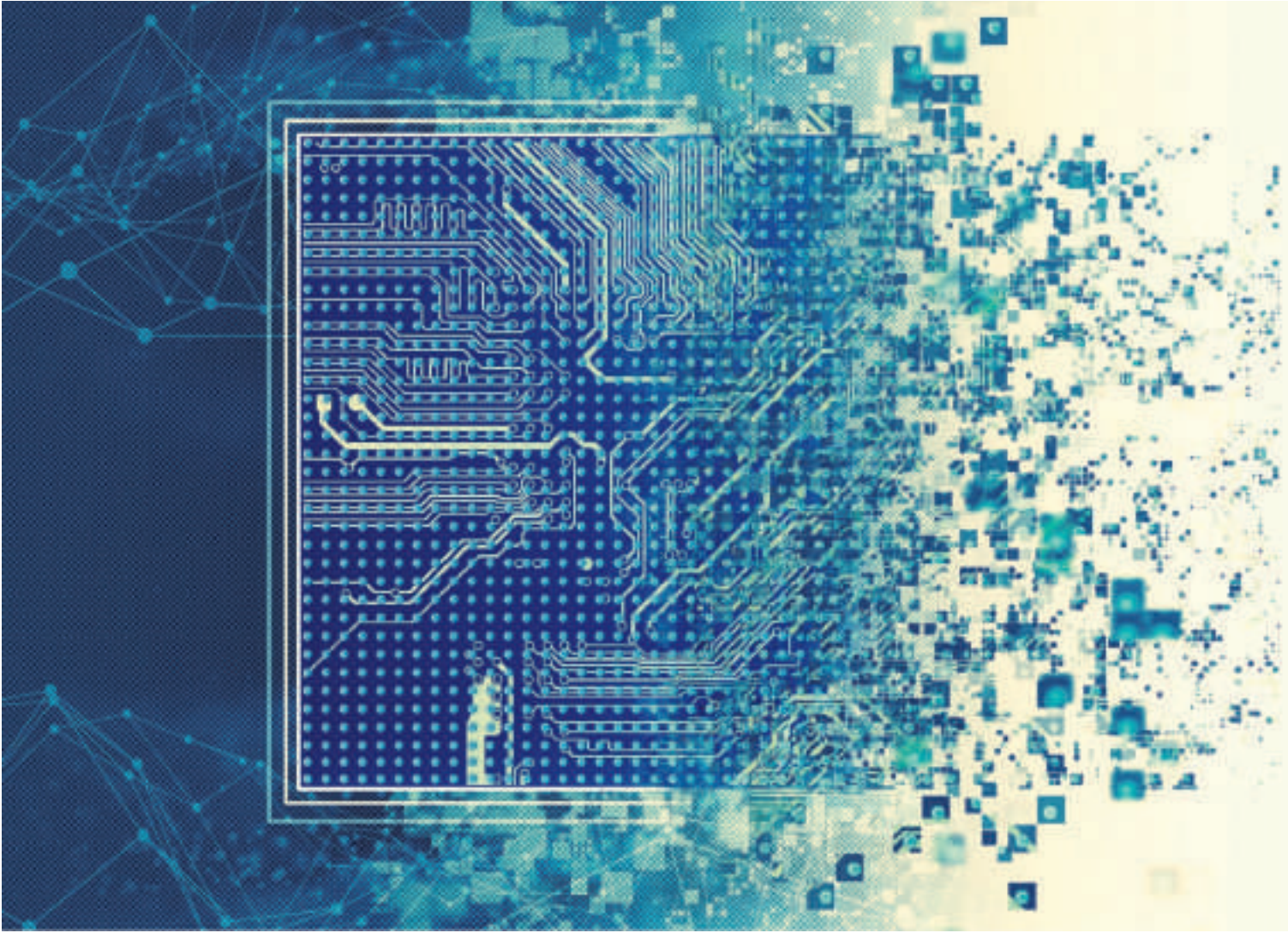


ILLUSTRATION: TONY BELL

“The best way to start talks with Arm is to have Risc-V data on my desk

one day dethrone the mighty Microsoft. It took decades, but it worked. Today, the world runs on Linux, from Big Tech apps to air traffic control systems.

The rise of Linux did not kill Microsoft – it is bigger than ever – but rivals do not fear it anymore. And critically, it has thrived precisely because it embraced – albeit belatedly – open source, supporting Linux in its data centres and making Microsoft Office available on Apple and Android devices after years of resistance.

Risc-V aims to unleash a similar revolution in hardware, and it is gaining steam. Calista Redmond, boss of Risc-V International, said that in 2018 the trade group had fewer than 140 members. Today, more than 3,100 companies across 70 countries have joined, all putting resources toward a design blueprint upon which anyone can develop new chips.

It was not long ago that the idea of launching a chip firm was laughable. Risc-V has torn down barriers to entry because an upstart can bypass the seven-figure fees demanded by Arm just to see its core design. Other companies have begun offering for free, or very cheaply, the automated design tools required to develop chips.

The result is a tenfold decrease in the cost to develop a new processor. “Entrepreneurs now don’t need \$20 million or \$30 million to prototype ideas; they can get started with a couple of million,” Chaddha said. “It’s becoming palpable to the venture industry to invest again.”

Indeed, between 2020 and the end of this year, venture capitalists are set to

plough \$22 billion (£19 billion) into chip start-ups, against the \$21 billion invested between 2005 and 2016, according to the professional services firm Deloitte.

And that is a problem for Arm as the owner of the dominant, and most valuable, intellectual property in the industry. Because arrayed against its engineers is an army of tens and thousands across industries. Chaddha added: “The law of open-source economics is going to keep cutting into the Arm business model.”

The past fortnight has shown how the tectonic plates are shifting. Late last month, Arm sued its long-time client Qualcomm, which had bought a start-up called Nuvia – a firm that, like Qualcomm, had a licence for Arm’s architecture. Arm claims the takeover meant that Qualcomm must negotiate a new licensing arrangement. In short, it is squeezing Qualcomm for more money.

Around the same time, SiFive, a start-up founded by the creators of Risc-V, announced a contract to provide chips to power “mission critical” processes for Nasa. It was a big win. Early in Risc-V’s life, its chips were used mostly for cheap, low-risk functions such as powering a fitness tracker. Winning a contract for work with the US space agency was proof that the standard is gaining on the likes of Intel and Arm.

Feldhan said: “When it started off, people thought, ‘Oh yeah, it’s open source. It came out of a university. It will have just a tiny little niche market. But it’s ... looking like it’s going to be a formidable competitor.”

Food for thought in halting cancer

Social media is full of quacks selling natural “miracle” cures for every malady under the sun, from insomnia and irritable bowels to, of course, cancer. “Eat ashwagandha [an Asian shrub] and spin around in a circle three times is my favourite one,” joked Anand Parikh, London-born chief executive of cancer start-up Faeth Therapeutics.

In short, Parikh knows what he is up against. His firm is the first in the world trying to use “precision nutrition” to starve tumours of the nutrients they need to grow – and getting past the “woo-woo” image of food as a cancer treatment is just one hurdle faced by the three-year-old Faeth.

It helps, though, that it was founded on a confluence of landmark projects from some highly respected cancer researchers. They include three separate groups that, independently, came to the same conclusion: nutrition – or, more specifically, how the body metabolises certain nutrients – plays a critical role in cancer’s spread.

Of these groups, one is led by Karen Vousden, Cancer Research UK’s former chief scientist; another is headed by renowned Harvard cell biologist Lew Cantley; and the third is run by Greg Hannon of Cancer Research UK’s Cambridge Institute.

Having dedicated their lives to drug development, Parikh said, “they realised that drugs weren’t working as well as they should because of the overall metabolism of the organism.”

So those scientists got together and the idea was born for Faeth, a highly specialised meal-delivery service. The firm ships meals to patients, but the difference is that the food is tuned to supercharge the effects of a patient’s chemotherapy or other treatment.

Deliveries contain specific ingredients as well as shakes that exclude the amino acids that fuel tumour growth. Patients have access to on-call dietitians via an app to manage the treatment.

Early signs are promising. The growth of pancreatic cancer cells in a lab was halted completely through chemo and Faeth’s diet and amino acid restriction. This

summer, the company raised \$47 million (£41 million), bringing its total funding to \$67 million – enough to run a series of clinical trials to prove the thesis in humans for a number of different cancers.

“If you’re going to go through this horrible process of losing your hair, feeling very nauseous all the time, then you might as well get the maximum benefit,” Parikh said. “I’m hopeful that within the next 12 to 18 months, we will have data in humans that shows the magnitude of the efficacy ... People will say, ‘Wow, this is a real thing.’”

Trial data published this summer by a group in South Dakota, unrelated to Faeth, 19 patients were put on a treatment course similar to Faeth’s. The results were surprising: all 19 had gone through failed treatments; after the trial, three were cured and others saw significant “anti-tumour activity”. Parikh said: “These were patients who have failed on multiple lines of therapy. They were in a bad state with very few options, and they cured them.”

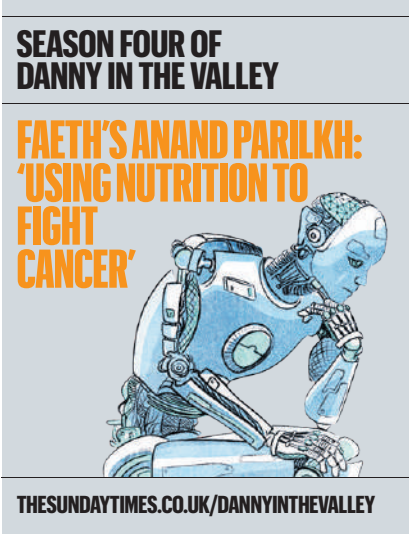
Faeth has a research lab in Cambridge but is otherwise fully remote. Parikh, who now lives in Texas, is a one-time lawyer who grew up in north London, where his father owned a corner shop. He left a corporate law firm in 2016 to join a start-up that used ketogenic diets – low carbohydrate, high fat – to treat type 2 diabetes.

Khosla Ventures, the Silicon Valley venture capital firm run by billionaire investor Vinod Khosla, tried to hire him. Parikh refused, so Khosla introduced him to the scientists at Faeth, which was just coming together.

And now the company has arrived at a juncture where many start-ups fail: proving that what works in the lab actually translates to humans.

Even though it is not inventing new drugs, Faeth is aiming to get approval from the US Food and Drug Administration so it can legally claim efficacy for its approach.

Parikh is convinced that Faeth will “change the course of this disease”. And it won’t be by noshing on foliage and spinning round three times.



My family are hustlers – but our workers are the A team

HOW I MADE IT GUS SARGENT CO-FOUNDER OF TECKNUOVO

Hannah Prevett Deputy editor, Times Enterprise Network

Gus Sargent was running a thriving technology recruitment firm when he spotted an even better opportunity. It was 2019 and the business, Tecknuovo, had a turnover of £6.5 million and was profitable, but Sargent and business partner Kieran Blackstone wanted to shake up what they saw as the staid world of IT consultancy.

“We spoke with senior technology leaders and there was a constant message of

pain when it came to buying from big consultancy teams: they sell with the A team, then deliver with the B team,” Sargent recalled.

So they turned off the recruitment part of the firm, halving the team to ten. It was a bit “hairy”, he admitted. “All my recruitment director friends were like, ‘What are you doing? You’re stopping what makes you money.’”

Yet turnover at the new incarnation of Tecknuovo, which provides engineers to large companies on a contract basis, while training their in-house teams, hit £30.2 million in 2021, with a profit of £4.1 million. The firm is forecasting revenues of

£45 million to £50 million for 2022 and has clients including HM Revenue & Customs, the travel giant Tui and Three, the mobile operator. In July, Tecknuovo was ranked 78th in The Sunday Times 100, a list of the UK’s fastest-growing private companies.

Sargent, now 35, is from an entrepreneurial family. His father ran an upholstery business in Teddington, southwest London, for 30 years. His mother – a former director of Penhaligon’s, the perfume company, and the stationer Ryman – runs a small firm selling essential oils. He was also inspired by an aunt who managed an antique store and an uncle who had a building company. “My whole family are hustlers,” he said.

Sargent studied economics at Southampton University, where he met Blackstone, now 34. Afterwards, they



both got jobs in London recruitment firms. It was a baptism of fire, said Sargent. “It can be a very cut-throat industry ... You’re being monitored constantly. There were people who used to call the talking clock just to get their call times up.”

Yet he thrived under pressure and, eager to be his own boss, quit his job in

January 2015 to start a payments technology firm. But he realised he had made a mistake when his co-founders failed to quit their day jobs to join him.

Loath to go back to being an employee, Sargent invested his £45,000 in savings to start Tecknuovo in July 2015, and was joined a month later by Blackstone.

He estimated that the money would last five months. “If we didn’t make a sale, we’d be in trouble.” But the company had sales of £2 million in its first year of trading and was profitable “after a couple of months”. Sargent has not taken any investment and remains the majority shareholder, with Blackstone holding a smaller stake.

Gus Sargent said other directors couldn’t believe it when he moved Tecknuovo moved out of tech recruitment and into consulting

When the recruitment business hit 20 employees, Sargent found himself facing a moral dilemma. “For every £2,000 you generate a week, you hire a new sales person – that’s the formula for success. It’s basically mailshotting and cold-calling. If I was going to hire another 10, 20, 30 sales people to scale my business, all my values – of being ethical, not chasing margin, not sending emails with spelling mistakes ... [are ones] you just can’t control with loads of people who are on commission, because all they want is the money.”

This focus on quality control influenced his decision to shift to providing a service rather than recruitment, which is more transactional by nature.

The firm also pioneered “zero dependency”, which means it works on client projects alongside the company’s internal staff and

trains them. Once they are up to scratch, Tecknuovo’s contractors will hand back the reins.

The key to the firm’s success has been building a community of 6,000 IT engineers who work on client projects, typically for 18 to 24 months. While companies have been reporting recruitment shortages in IT in recent years, the contractor market hasn’t faced the same challenges, said Sargent, who added that he has not had any problems hiring staff to work at Tecknuovo’s London HQ.

He said his team of 40 opt to work there “because we’re growing ... and we pay well.”

Sargent, who lives in Surrey with his wife and three young children, said resilience is one of the most important traits in an entrepreneur: “You will make mistakes all the time – I still do – and that’s OK. You just have to get up and go again.”







# Oliver Shah

## Big debts and court clashes are the real stars of cinema horror shows



If Cineworld and Vue International are to be believed, silver screen salvation depends on *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever* and *Avatar 2: The Way of Water*. These slickly trailed films, due to be released in November and December respectively, are expected to draw big crowds.

The cinema industry is eager for blockbusters after a year in which studios have released 36.5 per cent fewer films than before the pandemic. Both Cineworld and Vue are carrying out financial restructurings that will wipe out shareholders. They’ve blamed a weak slate of releases from Hollywood for audience numbers that are well below pre-Covid levels. The implication is that they might have got away with it had it not been for those pesky producers.

But how do you square that with the performance of AMC, their big American rival? Last month, AMC said it had enjoyed a “spectacularly encouraging second quarter”. “We would like to extend a special thankyou to Doctor Stephen Strange, Tom ‘Maverick’ Cruise,

Elvis Presley and all those hungry people-eating Jurassic dinosaurs who graced our big screens,” chief executive Adam Aron chirped. He was at it again last week: after Cineworld said that low customer numbers until November would contribute to a liquidity crisis, Aron announced that he was actually “quite optimistic” about the outlook for the final quarter.

They’re all showing the same films. The real difference is debt. Cineworld is carrying \$5 billion (£4.4 billion) of the stuff – the legacy of a stateside acquisition binge on chains including Regal. Vue had £1 billion of loans as per its last accounts for the year to November 2021. Both were highly geared as a multiple of earnings even before the pandemic, a function of their borrow-and-buy strategies. Their equity values are now pretty much nil.

In contrast, AMC has benefited from the gormless “meme stock” craze, in which retail punters on platforms such as Robinhood pile into certain shares. These have included AMC’s – allowing it to raise billions of dollars in fresh equity and shore up its balance sheet. As



& Entertainment, the jilted owner of Germany’s CineStar, for €130 million.

It’s obvious that if you’re a debtholder on the verge of taking over a distressed company, you don’t want to pay any more than is necessary. You certainly don’t want what a source close to one of these situations describes as “a huge liquidity call, immediately on the point of taking over” in the form of a legal bill. “It is pretty critical to be able to walk away, legally, from those liabilities and sit down with the debtholders and come up with a deal,” the source says.

That’s what insolvency will allow both companies to do. For sure, it has been a damp end to summer for cinemas. But complaints about prolonged low audience numbers are a fig leaf for pre-existing financial woes. And the advent of Disney+, Paramount+ et al is no longer the existential threat it once seemed during lockdowns, when studios trialled releasing films straight to streaming. Cinematic launches are the norm again, even if the exclusivity window has shrunk from 90 days to 45.

Cineworld chief executive Mooky Greidinger said himself in March that the

group was “in a good position to benefit from the industry recovery”. The factors that have derailed that are debt and legal woes, not the absence of a *Black Panther* or *Avatar*. The same goes for Vue.

**Return to Abrdn**

Another word on Abrdn, the phonetically challenged fund manager. Current and former staff have been in touch since last weekend’s column, which warned that the soon-to-be FTSE 250 company was losing its way under chief executive Stephen Bird. He has expanded into new areas with jazzy acquisitions such as retail platform Interactive Investor.

Bird’s description of himself as a “futurist” irritates some. “Can I tell you, we’ve only recently upgraded from Windows 7 and Office 2020,” says one. “And the other day, no one could log in until about lunchtime because none of the systems were working. So in no way are we futurists.”

**Postcard from quarantine**

I write this from the salubrious environs of a Hong Kong quarantine hotel.

Arriving in the territory is like going back in time two years to the peak of Covid mania in Britain. You take a PCR test before you fly and a rapid-flow test the moment you land. Then you’re whisked off to a designated hotel in a “quarantine taxi” driven by a guy in scrubs.

You stay there for three nights, taking tests every day. After that you can go out, provided you self-monitor – but not to restaurants for another four days.

Granted, it’s a lot better than the 21-day quarantine Hong Kong imposed at one point. But you can see why the business community has been begging the government to relax the rules further. You would have to be determined to come to put up with them, and that discounts most tourists.

Hong Kong’s population fell by 1.6 per cent to 7.3 million in the year to June, with a net outflow of 95,000 people. It’s difficult to disentangle the effects of Covid rules from the chilling of free speech. But the approach to Covid is undoubtedly a big part of the picture for what used to be a porous international business hub.

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## Just wishing for 2.5% growth won’t make it happen



### David Smith Economic Outlook

You may have heard enough about the new government already. I call it that because, while it is the same party, it is very different to the one we had until last Tuesday. But bear with me – there are a couple of questions to address.

The first is the impact of the energy price freeze. I am accustomed to using the word bazooka to describe occasions when governments bring out the big guns in response to a crisis. But this very high-cost intervention takes us towards the Scherer Gustav as a more appropriate analogy. This Second World War German heavy artillery was said to be the biggest-ever conventional gun.

An energy price freeze is a massive, if untargated, intervention – though so far it is a menu without official prices, in terms of cost. Many of those who condemned it as unrealistic when it was proposed by Sir Keir Starmer are now fans. It will bring down measured inflation and help stave off recession.

You will recall I, and others, pointing out that when the Bank of England predicted a significant, five-quarter recession last month, it did not assume any further action from the government, as is standard. That action has arrived, and it is significant, though it will reduce rather than eliminate the pain for many households and firms.

As an indication of the impact on measured inflation, Goldman Sachs, which a few days ago was suggesting that inflation could peak at 22 per cent early next year, and which had a main forecast of a 14.8 per cent peak then, now thinks the high will be 10.8 per cent in October.

I use the term “measured” inflation advisedly. As long as gas prices stay high – and there are reasons, as I suggested the other day, that they might not – this is no more a genuine reduction in inflation than when Denis Healey claimed in the 1970s to have cut inflation at a stroke by reducing VAT. All that is happening is that the inflation is being absorbed by taxpayers, at considerable cost.

It remains to be seen how comfortable markets are with that cost. Analysts are warning of further upward pressure on gilt yields and more sterling weakness. Perhaps, paradoxically, they also think this will persuade the Bank of England to raise interest rates by more, not less.

In the meantime, let me turn to another issue, the new administration’s ambition to get the economy to 2.5 per cent trend growth, which the new chancellor, Kwasi Kwarteng, reiterated at a meeting with business leaders.

It is an ambition that sounds a bit geeky but is very important. The economy’s trend growth rate is what determines our prosperity, and 2.5 per cent is an interesting number. It is, in fact, exactly the average growth rate for the UK economy since 1949.

That 2.5 per cent average, however, reflects different experiences in different periods. Growth was strong in the second half of the 20th century, and the UK outperformed most rivals after joining the European Economic Community in 1973. But growth this century has been slower, averaging 1.8 per cent, and particularly weak since the financial crisis at an average of 1 per cent.

### We are back to the age-old question: can productivity be awakened?

Apart from last year’s bounce-back from the pandemic, which followed an even bigger fall in 2020, the only two years of 2.5 per cent-plus growth were 2014 and 2015, as the economy was getting into its stride after the crisis but before the EU referendum.

Pre-crisis, in the 2000s, 2.5 per cent was a very modest ambition for the economy’s trend growth rate. In fact, the Treasury – these days thought of by new cabinet ministers to be some kind of malevolent growth-destroyer – used 2.5 per cent as its “cautious” assumption for meeting the government’s fiscal rules, believing then that the true trend growth rate was 2.75 or 3 per cent.

When 2.5 per cent trend growth was thought to be the (cautious) norm, it was easily described. Simply put, it consisted of 2 per cent annual growth in productivity, the long-term norm, and 0.5 per cent workforce growth.

Now, 2.5 per cent trend growth is harder. The Office for Budget

Responsibility (OBR) always takes a relatively optimistic view on the prospects for productivity recovery, assuming its growth will get back to 1.5 per cent a year after over a decade of near stagnation. But the OBR also expects the workforce to shrink by 0.1 per cent a year, and its estimate of long-run trend growth, in its “Fiscal risks and sustainability” report in July, is only 1.4 per cent a year. If productivity does not perk up, that might be optimistic.

The trend has been undone by four growth-damaging events: the financial crisis, Brexit, the pandemic and now the cost of living crisis. We are back to the age-old question of whether it is possible to waken productivity out of its slumber.

Kwarteng, meeting business leaders, was right to focus on “unlocking” business investment as one of the keys to doing this. Rishi Sunak, having identified the problem, was working on this when chancellor. Perhaps the new chancellor will bring forward some of his ideas.

But the challenge of boosting business investment is considerable. Despite a small second-quarter rise, it remains below pre-pandemic levels and, indeed, is at pre-referendum levels – despite a large incentive to invest now because of the super-deduction tax allowance.

An excellent new Institute for Government paper by Giles Wilkes, “Business investment: not just one big problem”, outlines the difficulty. There are no easy levers for the government to pull to stimulate investment. Merely cancelling next April’s planned increase

in corporation tax will not do the trick. “Policymakers once hoped that steadying the macro economy would create the conditions needed for a rise in business investment,” Wilkes writes. “But such stability is often elusive – for reasons both within and beyond the control of politicians ... And while macro-economic stability is a necessary condition for growing investment, it may not be sufficient. Nor are the standard recourses of chancellors in the past: financial help for investment, lower interest rates, targeted subsidies or the perennial call for tax cuts. All can make a difference, but given the ‘lumpy’ nature of investment, none is able to drive new projects when conditions are not otherwise encouraging.”

The policy debate is thus in danger of becoming a bit circular. Business investment would pick up strongly if firms were more confident about UK growth, but long-term growth will not recover without a rise in business investment. It is a bit of a catch-22. Merely talking about growth will not ensure that it happens.

**PS**

By tradition, when we have a new PM, it falls to me to provide an update on the all-important skip index. Regular readers will know that this tried and trusted informal economic indicator is invaluable in telling us what is really happening to the economy.

I did not provide an update when Nadhim Zahawi was appointed chancellor because I guessed that he would not be all that long in the job. No reflection on him but his nine weeks, for some of which he was on holiday, meant he had the shortest stint in the job since Iain Macleod’s four weeks in 1970.

Macleod tragically died in post and I am pleased to say that Zahawi leaves in good health. But his departure means we are on to our fifth chancellor, Kwasi Kwarteng, in just over three years. There were three in the Kwarteng 19 years.

Anyway, assuming Kwarteng is here to stay for a while, the skip index. It has had a rollercoaster ride during and after the pandemic, veering between bust and boom. Zero skips on my street means no growth or that we are in recession; two that the economy is growing in line with “trend” growth (see above) and four that we are in an unsustainable boom.

The count at the moment, which chimes with reports from my spies across the country, is two. So is everything healthy? The composite purchasing managers’ index, published a few days ago, suggested an economy shrinking slightly last month, while the construction PMI showed a larger fall.

What may be happening is that some people have “involuntary” savings left over from the pandemic, when it was not possible to spend on usual things, and some are being spent. Also, there may be a lag involved. Small builders and others offering home improvements are busy; labour shortages are biting. Many do not respond to calls. There is a waiting list for some work as long as for new cars, so jobs currently being done could have been arranged many months ago. Let’s see what happens over the winter.

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## Wall St tightens screw on WFH

### Irwin Stelzer American Account

Heigh ho, heigh no, it’s off to work we go. Or not.

For Americans, the last day of summer is, and always has been, Labor Day, the first Monday of the month – this year, September 5. The following Monday has traditionally been the first post-summer day in the office. That day is tomorrow.

It is also the day that many employers have highlighted with red lines on their calendar – return to the office, or find work elsewhere. That’s not much of a threat these days, when there are two job openings for every job seeker and employers are paying applicants to show up for interviews.

Whether the return to workplaces is a stampede or a trickle will affect property developers, currently scrambling to convert empty commercial space into flats; apparel makers, groping to define the term “business casual” and avoid the fire sales of unsold stock that are wrecking retail profits; furniture designers, wondering whether their big market will be the traditional cubicles and the C-suites, or the odd bits of space in flats occupied by employees working from home; city planners deciding how to finance disused transit systems; and owners of small businesses in downtown centres deciding whether to stock sandwiches for workers, who might be making their own at home.

It is not only the tight labour market that tempts many employers to take a lesson from our politicians and treat red lines as suggestions only. They must consider whether toughness will drive employees into the arms of union organisers emboldened by Biden-appointed regulators who declare any election in which workers reject unions as legally unacceptable. They must also consider the costs of training under-skilled and often under-educated new recruits who are contributing to the economy-wide drop in productivity.

Unionisation no longer involves only the horny-handed sons of toil that President Biden frequently remembers being told about by his father. Unions are reeling in Starbucks baristas, sales staff at Apple stores, architects at design firms, and graduate students working as teaching and research assistants – all seeking not only, or even primarily, higher wages but something called “a better work-life balance”.

Rather than having to choose between a well-paying job with prospects for advancement, or more time with partners, kids, pets and hobbies, these workers want both. They say that 9 to 5 and Dolly Parton’s “tumble outta bed and stumble to the kitchen, pour myself a cup of ambition” are so yesterday.

Many employers, nevertheless, feel that now is the time to get workers back to the office. Here, among other things, the new practice of “quiet quitting” – what in Britain is called “working to rule” – would be easier to detect. Kids are back in school. Covid is under control. Many workers, seeing scattered lay-offs and sensing a recession, prefer the job in the hand to the uncertainty of a change.

Elon Musk has told employees to be at those desks 40 hours a week. David Solomon, chief executive of Goldman

Sachs, has announced that he considers working from home “an aberration”, and leaves little to his staff’s imaginations by announcing that falling profits are forcing him to cull the bank’s workforce, and that he is reintroducing annual performance reviews.

Jamie Dimon, chief executive of JP Morgan Chase, has made it clear that he expects his top guns to be in their seats five days a week starting tomorrow, unless they are visiting clients. He expects they will be regular attendees in the \$3 billion, 2.5 million sq ft office tower under construction on Park Avenue, to be completed in 2025 to house 14,000 of the bank’s 37,000 New York-based employees.

Other staff will be allowed more flexibility – but, with lay-offs imminent, the word at the bank is: “If someone’s



### A good job or more time at home? They won’t choose: workers want both

not there, it makes it a pretty easy decision to fire them first.”

Surveys suggest that summer recruits and interns disliked empty offices because they couldn’t network and learn the firm’s culture. But most experienced office workers prefer a few days in the office and a few days at home, with the choice theirs. When Apple boss Tim Cook said employees are expected to be at their desks Tuesdays, Thursdays and a day selected by their team managers – to preserve the “in-person collaboration so essential to our culture” – 1,400 of Apple’s 165,000 workers objected in an open letter: “Stop treating us like school kids who need to be told when to be where and what homework to do.”

In the end, it will be different strokes for different folks working in different industries, and for companies with different HQ locations and chief executives with different views of the effects of WFH. Sometimes, it is best to look to markets to predict the future. Shares in Zoom, the enabler of WFH – the office killer, the destroyer of commercial property values and presentable clothes for bottoms as well as tops – have fallen 85 per cent from their peak. The rental price for long-term office space in Miami has zoomed above \$50 per sq ft for the first time in the city’s history.

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BUSINESS

Prufrock

Jon Yeomans

Tchenguiz bets again as hopes ride on a double

No one likes being out of pocket, least of all a flamboyant investor. Step forward Robert Tchenguiz, who earlier this year was told to pay spreadbetting firm CMC £1.3 million after losing a lawsuit over his debts. Tchenguiz used CMC's platform and others to build up a stake in FTSE 250 bus company FirstGroup just before the pandemic hit and its shares slid. Tchenguiz said CMC wrongly classed him as a "professional" investor and did not give him sufficient warnings about his bets. The judge was not convinced, and sided with CMC – perhaps recalling that Tchenguiz made his name as

an activist investor in the 2000s, taking large stakes in companies such as Sainsbury's. Tchenguiz has now lodged an appeal, claiming the judge "erred" in his reasoning. Iranian-born Tchenguiz, 62, has "made reasonable offers to settle that were not accepted", says a source. "He has the money to fight this." CMC declined to comment. The row is likely to rumble on. Tchenguiz is defending a separate claim from IG Index, which also says he owes money from bets that went south. Like FirstGroup buses, you wait ages for a Tchenguiz lawsuit, then two come along at once...

● Headhunter Kate Grussing, who drew up the shortlist for the job of governor of the Bank of England, held a drinks reception last week at Ham Yard Hotel in London's Soho – before such events were cancelled across the City. Grussing's foot was wrapped in a huge bandage after having treatment for cancer the day before at the Royal Marsden hospital. Grussing paid a fine tribute to Brenda Trenowden CBE, the banker who campaigned to improve gender diversity in the City as co-chair of the 30% Club, and who was a trustee of the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity. Trenowden sadly died of cancer last week, aged 55. Grussing said Trenowden "would want us to be dancing" though she herself wouldn't be for a while yet. Let's hope you are soon, Kate.



Legal fight: Robert Tchenguiz with partner Julia Dybowska

JUST SAYING ...

We don't sit around and say: 'What would Steve do?' He told us not to do that. But he was the best teacher I ever had, by far



Apple chief executive Tim Cook says founder Steve Jobs is still a big influence over how he runs the company

EDWARD LLOYD/ALPHA PRESS

First running late by all accounts

Speaking of FirstGroup, it's not been an easy few weeks for the bus and train business, with its Avanti West Coast line receiving flak for operating an emergency timetable due to a lack of drivers (detailed elsewhere in these pages). It seems it's not just trains the company can't run on time. Accounts for First Rail Holdings Ltd, the immediate controlling party of the Avanti operating company, are nearly six months late in filing. A spokesman admits: "For a few of our subsidiaries some outstanding audit work remains and we aim to file as soon as possible."

Prufrock reckons First could be fined at least £750 for its tardiness – or roughly the cost of a ticket from London to Manchester.

Misfortunes come in pairs

Tech investor Brent Hoberman is nursing another blow-up. The founder of Made.com, which has suffered a 95 per cent crash in its share price since listing last year, is also an investor in

Bombinate. The e-commerce site selling luxury apparel has detonated a voluntary liquidation process, five years after it was founded as a marketplace for "artisan" brands.

The start-up, which was on the Forbes 30 under 30 list of businesses to watch last year, has failed owing £950,000 – £124,000 of it to the taxman.

Hoberman, at least, is philosophical. He says: "They were a hard working team ... we need more people like them in the arena! Hopeful they will have better timing in their next venture."

FUNNY BUSINESS



Suits players to put zip into it

To London's Piccadilly, where, last week, Marks & Spencer showcased the suits the Three Lions will wear at the World Cup in November – designed in conjunction with the players.

Karen Hall, head of menswear design, showed off the casual suit the lads will wear on the plane, team tuxedos for the sports personality of the year awards and the more formal suit for their victorious homecoming reception at 10 Downing Street (let's not get ahead of ourselves).

The fact the players opted for zip-up polo shirts under their suits instead of a shirt and tie may not be a good omen for M&S's formalwear sales, though.

Attempt to take over the firm

Brands were quick to pay their respects to the late Queen last week, but were they all really necessary? Surely we could have done without the British Kebab Awards, Cash Converters and others piling in. Sometimes, it's OK to say nothing at all.



One entrepreneurial sort wasted little time in registering the names Elizabeth II Ltd and Charles III Ltd at Companies House.

An exercise in business acumen or just poor taste? Prufrock thinks that the name of the town listed in the firms' correspondence address is appropriate: Dollar.

BUSINESS BOOKS

- 1 Rich Dad, Poor Dad Robert T. Kiyosaki *Plata* (2,757)
- 2 Rules of Everything Richard Templar *Pearson Business* (2,421)
- 3 The Psychology of Money Morgan Housel *Harriman House* (1,932)
- 4 Empire of Pain Patrick Radden Keefe *Random House* (1,805)
- 5 Never Split the Difference Chris Voss, Tahl Raz *Random House* (1,766)
- 6 Start With Why Simon Sinek *Penguin* (1,706)
- 7 What They Don't Teach You at Harvard Business School Mark H. McCormack *Profile* (1,232)
- 8 Shoe Dog Phil Knight *Simon & Schuster* (1,221)
- 9 Invention James Dyson *Simon & Schuster* (1,151)
- 10 Who Moved My Cheese? Dr Spencer Johnson *Vermilion* (1,138)

Bestseller List prepared by Nielsen using data supplied by and copyright to Nielsen BookScan, taken from the TCM for the four-week period ending September 3, 2022

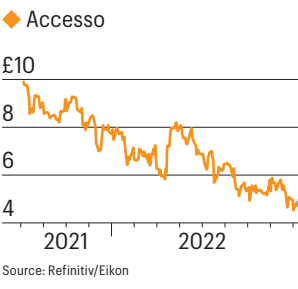
THE TIPSTER

LUCY TOBIN

Jump the queue to invest in Accesso

It is lucky that **Accesso Technology Group's** products are more useful than the blurb on its website. "We provide solutions that empower our clients to create connected guest experiences to drive their business forward," the Reading-based tech firm informs us. What Accesso actually does is make virtual queuing and ticketing software. If you have gone to Legoland or Madame Tussauds or another Merlin attraction, or some West End theatres, or one of Six Flags' US theme parks, you are likely to have used Accesso's tech to book a ticket or to avoid long queues. The use of its software is not a big-hearted move from the entertainment giants; less time wasted queuing frees up people to spend more on food and drink and extra experiences. That is the

dream that the Aim-listed Accesso has sold to its clients – about 1,000 venues in 30 countries – with increasing success. Turnover was a record \$125 million (£109 million) for 2021, when a chunk of its clients had not returned to full capacity after the pandemic. Accesso was walloped by Covid at first but has revived since, posting a \$12 million profit last year (it has new figures out on Tuesday). The firm also holds more than \$64 million in cash – a buffer that might ease investor concerns about a slowdown in business at attractions as recession looms. Accesso shares have been on their own big-dipper ride: from highs of £29 in 2018, they hit a £1.60 low at the start of the pandemic, and stand at £5.78 today.



However, this highly cash-generative firm believes "operators are increasingly looking to gain efficiency, reduce labour expenses and optimise revenue via digital transformation" – and I agree. Whatever the short-term trends at box offices, it is inevitable that global entertainment venues will be shifting to mobile-based tickets, virtual queueing and the personalised marketing opportunities of apps – where a shop discount code flashes up, for example, when a rollercoaster fan faces a 30-minute virtual queue. Accesso excels at this provision, as demonstrated by the fact that 84 per cent of its turnover stems from repeat contracts – including for key customers Six Flags and Merlin. At some point, when their own pandemic pain has eased, a takeover bid from one of those key clients is not impossible. In the meantime, Accesso looks to be a good-value investment, with its price-to-earnings ratio standing at a reasonable 11. Recession could trigger a rough ride for shareholders, but, long term, the digital push in events makes Accesso a worthy buy.

THE WEEK IN THE MARKETS

FTSE 100

7,351.07  
▲69.88 ▲0.96%  
H: 7,672.4 L: 6,903.9

FTSE 250

19,188.03  
▲334.81 ▲1.78%  
H: 23,896.7 L: 18,315.3



**DOW JONES**  
32,151.71  
▲833.27 H: 36,799.7  
▲2.66% L: 29,888.8



**NASDAQ**  
12,112.31  
▲481.44 H: 16,057.4  
▲4.14% L: 10,646.1

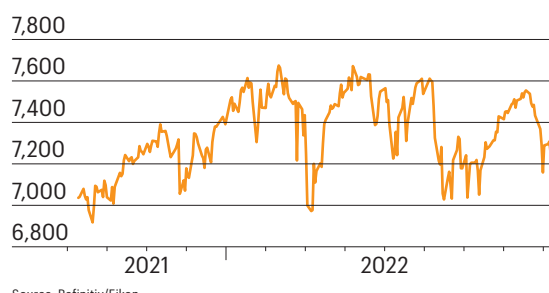


**S&P 500**  
4,067.36  
▲143.10 H: 4,796.6  
▲3.65% L: 3,666.8



**NIKKEI**  
28,214.75  
▲563.91 H: 30,714.5  
▲2.04% L: 17,646.5

FTSE 100



Source: Refinitiv/Eikon

RISERS

Network International: 291.4p, ▲17.9% on share buybacks  
Moonpig: 204.8p, ▲16.8% on sentiment  
Genus: £28.60, ▲16.7% on resilient trading  
Countrywide Properties: 260.6p, ▲14.2% on takeover by Vistry

FALLERS

Darktrace: 379.2p, ▼24.8% on collapsed takeover bid  
Computacenter: £21.82, ▼11% on earnings miss  
Associated British Foods: £13.55, ▼9.8% on profit warning  
Balanced Commercial Property Trust: 94.3p, ▼7.2% on dividend announcement



**HANG SENG**  
19,362.25  
▼89.84 H: 26,205.9  
▼0.46% L: 18,415.1



**SHANGHAI**  
3,262.05  
▼75.58 H: 3,715.4  
▼2.37% L: 2,886.4



**CAC 40**  
6,212.33  
▲44.82 H: 7,376.4  
▲0.73% L: 5,795.0



**DAX**  
13,088.21  
▲37.94 H: 16,271.8  
▲0.29% L: 12,401.2



**FTSE EUROFIRST**  
1,658.36  
▲17.73 H: 1,917.4  
▲1.08% L: 1,579.3



**SENSEX**  
59,793.14  
▲989.81 H: 61,765.6  
▲1.68% L: 51,360.4



**ALL ORDS**  
7,139.00  
▲82.70 H: 7,926.8  
▲1.17% L: 6,609.5



**S&P TSX**  
19,773.34  
▲502.49 H: 22,087.2  
▲2.61% L: 18,329.1

DOLLAR

USD > GBP  
\$1.16  
▲0.01 12-month high: \$1.38 low: \$1.15

EURO

EUR > GBP  
€1.15  
■0.00 12-month high: €1.21 low: €1.15

YEN

YEN > USD  
¥142.52  
▲2.32 12-month high: ¥144.09 low: ¥107.17

OIL

DOLLARS/BARREL  
\$92.84  
▼0.16 12-month high: \$127.98 low: \$68.87

GOLD

DOLLARS/TROY OZ  
\$1,716.05  
▲4.61 12-month high: \$2,052.41 low: \$1,680.09

BITCOIN

DOLLARS  
\$21,296.53  
▲1,320.28 12-month high: \$67,707.33 low: \$8,822.59 Price at 9am Saturday

THE ECONOMY

Consumer prices index	current rate	prev. month
	10.1%	9.4%
CPI including housing	current rate	prev. month
	8.8%	8.2%
Retail prices index	current rate	prev. month
	12.3%	11.8%
Average weekly earnings	on prev. month	last year
	£611	▲1.0% ▲6.0%
Unemployment	current rate	prev. month
	1.29m	3.8% 3.8%
Manufacturing output	on the year	on last month
		▲1.3% ▼1.6%
Retail sales	on the year	on last month
		▼3.4% ▲0.3%
UK trade balance	latest 3 mths	prev. 3 mths
(£bn)	-32.98	-37.97 -12.26
Gross domestic product	latest quarter	prev. quarter
	▼0.1%	▲0.8% ▲2.9%
Budget deficit (PSNB) in £bn	last month	prev. month
	▼4.9	▼20.9 ▼55

10-YEAR BOND YIELDS %

		variation	12 months	
			high	low
UK	3.10	▲0.18	3.15	0.70
US	3.32	▲0.13	3.48	1.28
JAPAN	0.25	▲0.01	0.26	0.04
GERMANY	1.70	▲0.18	1.76	-0.39

TOP 200 COMPANIES

Market cap ranking		Price	Change on week	52-week high	52-week low	Yield	P/E	Mkt Cap (£bn)
37	3i Group	1166.5	-4.0	1503.5	1059.0	4.0	2.8	11.3
121	3i Infrastructure	338.0	+1.5	366.5	304.0	3.1	7.5	3.0
124	Abcam	1285.0	+60.0	1750.0	1049.0	0.0	N.A.	2.9
114	Abnrdn	151.4	-0.8	263.9	141.6	9.6	5.4	3.2
62	Admiral	2201.0	+126.0	3526.0	1729.0	3.9	16.9	6.6
177	Airtel Africa	139.6	+7.9	170.9	93.3	3.1	9.0	5.2
125	Alliance Trust	991.0	+20.0	1078.0	887.0	2.4	N.A.	2.9
15	Anglo American	2926.5	+175.0	4170.5	2470.5	1.2	5.9	38.9
36	Antofagasta	1195.5	+94.0	1781.5	991.6	10.0	15.3	11.7
196	Ashtree	226.6	+14.8	370.2	192.0	7.5	7.7	1.6
27	Ashtree	4292.0	-40.0	6450.0	3359.0	1.7	16.4	18.8
40	Assura	1355.0	-147.5	2131.0	1345.0	2.0	13.5	10.6
171	Assura	64.1	+0.0	77.8	59.6	4.2	11.5	1.9
2	AstraZeneca	10500.0	-118.0	11440.0	8063.0	2.4	N.A.	161.5
69	Auto Trader	658.4	+11.0	741.8	499.5	1.2	25.8	6.1
53	Avast	716.6	-1.4	721.0	465.0	1.9	30.3	7.4
45	Aviva	2944.0	+99.0	4085.0	1924.0	1.3	N.A.	8.8
34	Aviva	443.1	+16.5	467.9	370.9	6.7	N.A.	12.3
110	B&M European Value Retail	350.6	-21.5	644.0	344.1	4.7	8.3	3.5
194	Babcock International	320.4	-0.2	380.2	295.1	0.0	10.0	1.6
23	BAE Systems	784.0	+20.0	838.4	528.8	3.3	18.2	24.3
163	Balfour Beatty	334.4	+15.4	334.0	215.6	2.8	11.5	2.0
19	Barclays	168.8	-0.2	217.1	140.6	3.7	8.5	26.8
89	Barratt Developments	422.2	+121	760.0	408.6	8.7	8.5	4.3
104	Beazley	606.0	+22.5	606.0	370.2	2.5	24.7	3.7
133	Bellway	2055.0	+89.5	3510.0	1959.0	6.2	6.2	2.5
97	Berkeley Holdings	3542.0	+50.0	4903.0	3447.0	0.0	8.6	3.8
149	Big Yellow	1249.0	-25.0	1724.0	1200.0	3.2	3.3	2.3
6	BP	450.8	-2.9	463.4	294.7	4.4	N.A.	83.9
157	Bridgepoint	259.0	-18.0	569.0	208.0	N.A.	36.9	2.1
8	British American Tobacco	3489.0	+28.5	3628.0	2512.5	6.2	15.2	77.9
99	British Land Company	414.1	-4.3	556.4	406.1	4.8	4.0	3.8
158	Britvic	784.0	+10.0	962.0	741.0	3.3	18.1	2.1
33	BT	140.1	-6.3	200.9	135.2	5.5	11.1	13.8
62	Bunzl	2899.0	+66.0	3163.0	2397.0	2.0	21.6	9.7
41	Burberry	1711.5	-3.5	2063.0	1482.0	2.7	17.5	6.6
198	Burford Capital	730.0	-63.0	925.5	605.5	1.5	N.A.	1.6
167	Caledonia Investments	3605.0	+60.0	4100.0	3230.0	1.8	3.3	2.0
39	Carnival	781.2	+50.8	1766.4	619.6	0.0	N.A.	11.0
80	Centrica	86.9	+8.5	91.0	49.7	1.2	N.A.	5.1
172	City of London IT	406.6	+5.5	425.0	377.0	4.7	6.2	1.2
55	Coca Cola HBC	1968.0	-4.5	2687.0	1460.5	3.1	17.8	7.9
16	Compass	1900.0	+57.0	1969.5	1436.0	1.2	46.2	33.3
132	Computacenter	2182.0	-270.0	3030.0	2182.0	3.3	13.6	2.7
191	ContourGlobal	256.5	+2.5	258.0	178.0	6.6	10.6	1.7
87	ConvaTec	228.2	+13.4	245.8	166.9	2.3	66.5	4.6
192	Cranswick	3056.0	+42.0	3916.0	2918.0	2.5	15.7	1.6
25	CRH	3161.0	-35.0	4002.0	2756.5	3.4	10.8	23.6
44	Croda International	6866.0	+116.0	10410.0	5908.0	1.5	13.5	9.5
129	Darktrace	379.2	-124.8	985.0	287.6	0.0	N.A.	2.7
12	DCC	4938.0	+0.0	6486.0	4750.0	3.6	15.6	4.8
102	Decbra Pharmaceuticals	3288.0	-208.0	5365.0	3110.4	1.4	61.6	3.7

Market cap ranking		Price	Change on week	52-week high	52-week low	Yield	P/E	Mkt Cap (£bn)
130	Derwent London	2430.0	+16.0	3718.0	2352.0	2.7	10.2	2.7
131	Diageo	3797.0	+17.0	4103.5	3343.0	2.0	27.2	85.9
132	Diploma	252.4	+106.6	346.0	2158.0	1.8	42.8	3.1
137	Direct Line Insurance	212.6	+4.5	312.3	193.7	10.7	10.6	2.8
141	Dr Martens	249.0	+7.8	429.8	182.9	1.7	13.8	2.0
142	Drax	749.5	+88.8	831.5	412.8	2.6	14.9	3.0
148	DSE	279.2	+8.1	461.3	260.4	5.4	13.8	3.8
149	EasyJet	358.9	-0.7	395.0	265.0	0.0	N.A.	2.7
150	Energis	1418.0	+157.1	1481.0	739.0	1.8	51.1	25.5
157	Entain	1218.5	+7.0	2377.0	1075.5	0.0	33.7	7.1
159	Eurochem International Inv.	1450.0	+8.0	1466.0	829.0	1.3	N.A.	1.6
162	Experian	2730.0	+109.0	3667.0	2285.0	1.7	25.4	25.0
168	F&C Investment Trust	875.0	+5.0	946.0	770.0	1.1	N.A.	45.5
170	Finsbury Growth & IT	840.0	+11.0	930.0	734.0	1.1	17.3	1.8
170	Flutter Entertainment	10235.0	-135.0	15890.0	7614.0	0.0	N.A.	17.9
176	Fraser's	812.0	+10.0	949.5	562.5	0.0	13.7	3.8
178	Fresnillo	728.6	+34.8	986.8	622.4	3.5	26.1	5.3
185	Future	1648.0	+13.0	1844.0	1486.0	0.2	23.2	2.0
184	Games Workshop	7500.0	+375.0	3999.0	6005.0	0.1	19.3	2.4
197	GB	634.0	+184.0	952.5	386.2	0.6	N.A.	1.6
174	Genus	2860.0	+410.0	5750.0	2234.0	1.1	45.9	1.9
198	Glencore	488.4	+35.2	541.5	312.0	2.3	4.7	63.1
197	Grafton	747.4	+36.0	1390.0	704.0	2.9	8.9	1.7
196	Grainger	267.4	+3.4	362.6	258.8	2.0	13.2	2.0
201	Greencoat UK Wind	163.5	-1.8	165.3	129.8	4.6	4.6	3.8
202	Greiner	147.0	+14.0	344.0	199.0	2.9	17.3	2.0
203	GSK	1348.6	-3.4	1810.4	1344.2	6.4	12.3	54.4
204	Haleon	261.0	+13.9	316.5	246.2	0.0	16.1	23.9
208	Halma	2157.0	+10.0	3216.0	1876.5	0.9	33.5	8.1
209	Harbour Energy	480.4	+7.4	530.0	298.5	2.0	5.2	4.2
186	Harbourvest Global PE	2160.0	-20.0	2940.0	2000.0	0.0	1.9	1.7
190	Harsco	856.4	-14.1	1598.0	762.6	4.6	18.8	4.0
190	Hays	121.0	+4.0	175.4	109.0	1.8	17.5	2.0
190	Hg Capital Trust	368.5	+0.0	454.0	312.0	1.9	2.7	1.7
198	HICL Infrastructure	176.4	+1.0	183.0	161.0	4.7	9.3	3.6
206	Hikma Pharmaceuticals	1285.5	-22.5	2531.0	1265.5	3.8	9.9	2.8
116	Hiscox	911.8	+15.8	990.2	792.8	3.6	N.A.	3.1
194	HomeServe	1190.0	-6.0	1190.0	608.5	0.6	30.2	4.0
133	Howden Joinery	584.8	+30.2	976.5	552.4	3.3	10.4	3.2
111	HSBC Holdings	525.0	-9.9	567.2	359.8	4.6	8.9	104.0
161	Hutchmed	236.0	+13.0	573.0	144.0	0.0	N.A.	2.0
11	IG Holdings	793.5	-1.0	857.5	648.0	5.6	8.6	3.4
133	IMI	114.0	+35.0	1838.0	107.0	2.1	14.5	3.0
199	Imperial Brands	192.5	+52.5	199.5	148.0	7.1	9.2	18.4
207	Intech	752.0	+3.0	828.0	647.0	3.1	12.6	2.3
164	Indivior	250.8	+9.6	336.8	193.1	0.0	16.6	2.0
199	Infima	560.8	+11.8	624.0	464.4	0.5	42.9	8.0
196	InterContinental Hotels	4793.0	+49.0	5338.0	4193.0	2.5	23.4	3.7
103	InterContinental Capital	1283.5	-33.5	2379.0	1254.0	5.9	7.0	8.1
12	International Group	11.1	+2.7	188.0	102.9	0.0	N.A.	5.5
195	International Public P'ships	168.0	+4.0	174.2	156.0	4.5	9.1	3.2
133	Intertec	4000.0	+45.0	5782.0	3873.0	2.6	21.9	6.4
135	Investec	404.7	+14.9	536.8	275.6	6.2	8.1	4.0



# MONEY

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WE TOOK DAD  
IN BECAUSE  
HE COULDN'T  
AFFORD HIS  
BILLS  
PAGE 11



'I WAS  
FAMOUS,  
BUT BROKE'  
FAME AND  
FORTUNE,  
PAGE 14



## Rise of the nighthawk share traders

Brave investors are buying and selling US shares out of hours for quick profits — but do you dare take the risk, asks *David Brenchley*

When Amazon recently reported its better-than-expected sales, it was after the United States stock market had closed. That is common in the US where many big companies report results at the end of the day, rather than the start, which is favoured over here.

However, that did not stop Amazon's share price from rising 12 per cent.

It was driven by the rise of after-hours trading, and the impact of so-called nighthawks — ordinary investors who are taking advantage of different rules in the US that let you buy and sell when the market is shut.

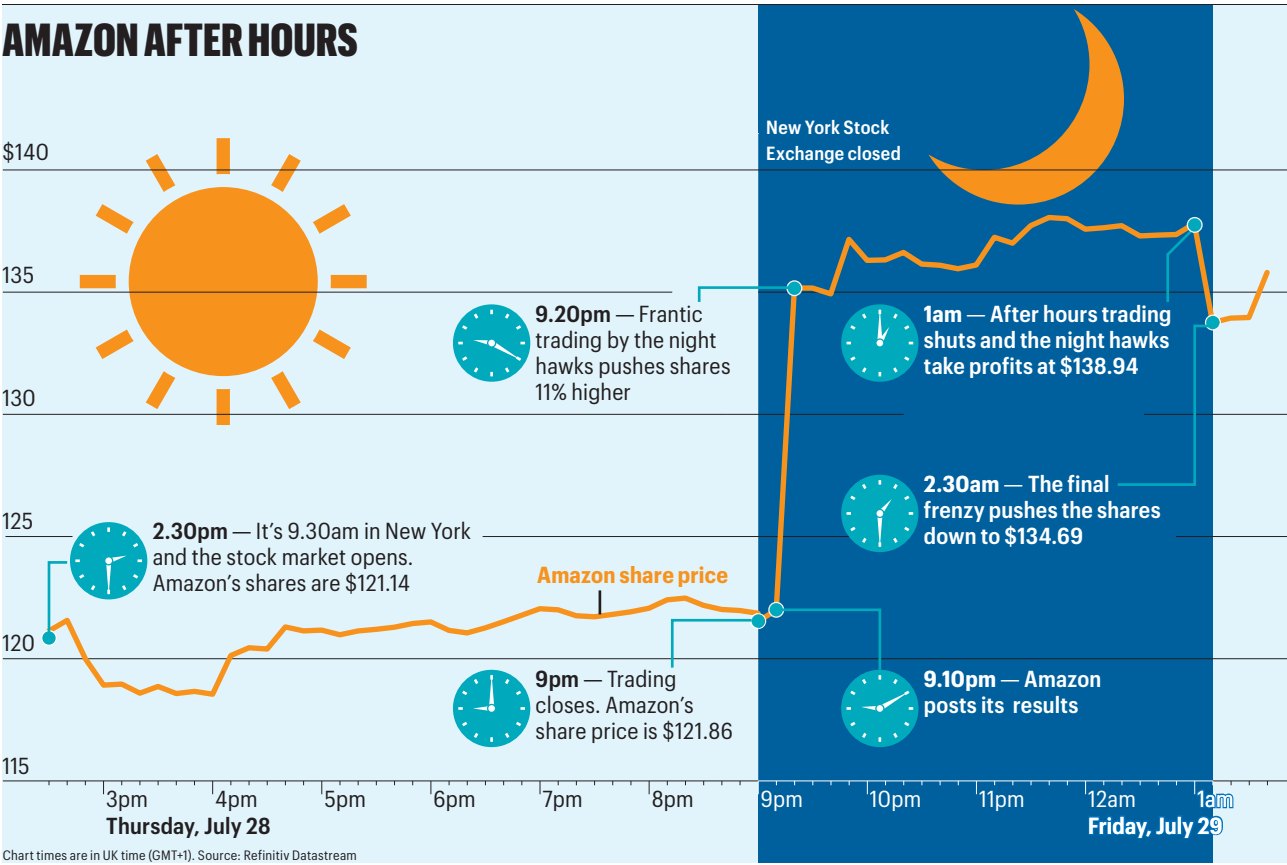
Usually, stock markets have defined hours. In London, the market opens at 8am and closes at 4.30pm. New York opens at 9.30am and closes at 4pm (9pm UK time).

Historically, the closing bell allowed investors to clock off, put their feet up and pour a glass of wine to toast a successful day — or drown their sorrows.

When the day traders have logged off for the night, a different breed of investors clock on. In the US they work from 4pm Wall Street time until 8pm. Over here they work from 9pm until 1am.

Night traders buy and sell individual stocks as well as funds covering broad indices such as the S&P 500. Their activity means that share prices can rise and fall depending on news events, from company results to late-night comments from members of the US Federal Reserve. In some cases, more than 80 per cent of the trades in a company's stock can take place outside the daytime session.

It is not easy to trade yourself, and it can be risky. Fewer people are trading when the market is officially closed, so stocks can be more volatile.



363%  
return on US funds skdfjksldjfklsdjfkl  
YOUR STORY  
Tell us your trading experiences  
Email money@sundaytimes.co.uk

The shares are traded between brokers on a computerised system that automatically matches buy and sell orders, rather than through the traditional stock exchange.

Chris Beauchamp from the trading platform IG argued that buying stocks and holding them overnight is trading rather than investing “and would require some fairly nimble footwork to get in and out quickly”.

IG allows UK investors to trade a selection of US stocks outside normal hours. Instead of being restricted to trading between 2.30pm and 9pm UK time, you can deal on IG between 12 noon and 10.30pm Monday to Thursday and 12 noon to 10pm on Friday, encompassing pre-market and after-hours trading.

The night effect, as it is often called, has been profitable over the years. Investors buy US stocks just before the market closes in the afternoon and sell them just after it opens in the morning.

It is becoming increasingly prevalent because of the growing interest in trading and because in a falling stock market, as at the moment, it allows traders to eke out gains in short periods of time.

The opposite, the day effect, is where you buy stocks just after the market opens and sell them just before it closes.

The night effect has returned 363.6 per cent since November 1999, based on the buying and selling of the SPDR S&P 500 exchange traded fund

(ETF), according to the fund house NightShares. The day effect has gained just 0.3 per cent during that time.

Yet simply holding the SPDR S&P 500 ETF would have beaten the night effect, returning 364.9 per cent.

The night effect is more effective in areas other than large-cap stocks, though. If you had invested \$1,000 when the iShares Russell 2000 ETF, which tracks small American businesses, launched in 2000 you would now be sit-

ting on \$21,810 if you had used the night effect over the past 22 years. Using the day effect, your \$1,000 would now be \$244. Simply holding the ETF would have left you with \$5,337.

There are plenty of reasons why the night effect works, even though it is a high-risk strategy. Bruce Knuteson, a former analyst at the hedge fund DE Shaw, suggested in a research paper that market manipulation by hedge funds was the main factor.

Michael Kelly, a professor at Lafayette College, believes a propensity to panic at bad news affects share prices during the day, but not at night.

Others put it down to day traders closing their positions at the end of the main session to avoid holding them overnight. Last year, the New York Federal Reserve found that returns spike between 2am and 3am Eastern Time, which is when European stock markets open.

Through the first six months of 2022, the night effect worked well for the US market. Holding an S&P 500 ETF would have lost you 20.5 per cent over the period, but you would be down only 10.3 per cent with the night effect. The day effect loss was 11.3 per cent.

Since then, stock markets have been less kind to the night effect. It has lost 2.7 per cent while the S&P 500 is up 5 per cent and the day effect has gained 8 per cent. This kind of underperformance from the night effect is rare, said Bruce Lavine, the chief executive of the investment firm NightShares.

“One of the reasons the night effect probably persists is that it doesn't win all the time. If it won all the time it wouldn't exist. It's a long-term strategy. It requires patience to capture it.”

Others are less convinced by the night effect. “There is no evidence that the out-performance of the ‘buy the close, sell the open’ strategy is sustainable,” said

“  
This is a high-risk strategy that requires a lot of patience

Charles-Henry Monchau from the private bank Syz Group. “A market anomaly is not necessarily likely to be repeated in the future. As the well-known saying goes, past performance is no guarantee of future results.”

Ben Laidler from the platform eToro said: “Capturing this overnight outperformance is harder in reality than theory, and its scale is also naturally declining as it has become better known and followed. The best approach for the vast majority of investors remains the long-term approach, playing to the old adage of time in the markets beats timing the markets.”

The recent poor performance from the night effect has been bad timing for NightShares. It launched the NightShares 500 ETF on June 28, since when it is down 3.6 per cent versus a gain of 5.2 per cent for the SPDR S&P 500 ETF. Eleven weeks is too a short time frame in which to judge the effect, though.

Amazon's shares were \$134.90 when trading began on the day after it reported its results — 10 per cent above their price at the end of the previous day's trading session. They had even been 12 per cent higher at one point.

A tidy profit for the nighthawks.

## James Coney What the royals can teach us about death



It is at moments like this that we all remember loved ones that we have lost. That dash to a bedside at a hospital or that hollow knock on the door from a police officer who came to tell you that someone had been taken too soon.

What comes after these moments, though, can often have a profound effect on how we grieve, shaping the rest of our lives.

The death of the Queen has been one of the most planned-for events in our history, but amid the sorrow at the end of the constancy that she brought to the nation, there is also the reassurance of the certainty of what will follow.

This is worth bearing in mind as we think about mortality and our own “what comes next”.

Over the past few years there had been a gradual handing over of responsibility from the Queen as she became more frail and needed to ease back on her workload. It allowed other family members to pick

up some of the burden. Death is not a subject anyone wants to confront, but planning and preparation for it is the one last selfless and loving gesture that you can give your family.

In my job I get to see quite a few wills — one crossed my desk just this past week — and what always strikes me is quite how detailed some famous people are in their wishes compared with how starkly lacking in clarity others are.

In the latter case my thoughts always turn to those

relatives who are left to interpret the unwritten intentions, wishing that they could ask questions of someone who they now miss dearly.

Then there are those families who are torn apart by surprises in the last wishes of a loved one — where the wrangling over money suddenly blows up in to irreparable disputes. You're left living with regret and anger.

There are so many decisions to make after a family death; so many awkward conversations that shake you; so many cold and uncaring institutions to have to share the most intimate detail with.

Winding up an estate can be a slow and drawn-out process, particularly if you have to go through probate and sell a property. Every last blank you can fill in, every extra detail (whether financial or just practical information like what flowers you want at your send-off) can help to make life easier for those who want to remember your legacy.

We spend our entire working lives trying to make good decisions so that we can support our children through the emotional and financial burden of starting out in life, then supporting ourselves through retirement.

Yet for many of us that is where the planning stops, without thinking about how we can continue providing all this support even after we are gone. Just one short conversation about it with your loved ones can solve everything.

And thinking about that transition to taking less responsibility for your affairs can help you with your burden: setting up a power of attorney for your health and financial needs will make your life a little easier and provide peace of mind for your family.

So write a will and keep it updated.

No one likes thinking about their own demise, but the reassurance of certainty is the last loving gesture you can make. @jimconey

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## PAPER POWER

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Source: Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI), 2020. CEPI represents 92% of European pulp and paper production



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With thanks to



Helping your family through the cost of living crisis may feel like a no-brainer, but there can be pitfalls, says *David Byers*

David Astley, 82, had a colourful career, working in shops, as a milkman and, finally, for British Aerospace. He was divorced nearly 40 years ago and has prided himself on being frugal and self-sufficient ever since. He lived in small rented flats, had a close circle of friends and played golf four times a week. That was until June, when the cost of living crisis hit. David's daughter, Sian Astley, 52, worried that he would not be able to cope when his energy and shopping bills increased to well beyond what he could afford on his pension. He was also diagnosed with lung cancer, so he moved in to Sian's family home in Manchester. Sian said: "Dad's electricity bill had risen to £120 a month, which was absolutely ridiculous – just completely unaffordable. Plus, in the supermarket, prices were becoming ever more expensive and it was unsustainable."

"Dad isn't rich. He gets the state pension and a bit from a small private pension. I didn't want him to be anxious about his health and about money, plus I also wanted to keep an eye on him, to help him to go to appointments at the hospital."

"It's a scary choice that so many people are going to be facing this winter, especially people who aren't as active and get colder faster."

Sian and her partner, Martin Sykes, 62, have a five-bedroom home in Fallowfield. Sykes's two children, who are in their twenties, no longer live there.

Sian is a successful interior designer who has appeared on BBC's *DIY SOS Big Build* as well as being a project manager, a landlord and a host of supper clubs.

Her sister, who lives in Lancashire, is also very supportive but she has three teenage children and a full house.

Giving up his independence was hard for David – not least because he was worried that his daughter would force him to eat things he does not like. He sleeps in the guest bedroom, but Sian plans to turn a bigger room into a bedroom/sitting room with a TV.

She said: "My dad is a really happy-go-lucky kind of person, not much fazes him. He just pootles through life. As long as he gets to play his golf and read his paper, he's happy. But I know he will miss his independence."

The practice of extended families living together is far less common in the UK than it is in Asia and the Middle East, but some commentators and frontline politicians have suggested that it should become more commonplace. The social care system is under strain and many older people are living longer and alone.

In 2013 Jeremy Hunt, who was then health secretary, said that he was struck by the "reverence and respect" for older people in Asian cultures, where it is expected that parents will go and live with children and grandchildren rather than go to a care home.

Such multigenerational homes could



ANTHONY DEVLIN FOR THE TIMES

# ‘Dad’s bills were soaring, so now he’s moved in with us’

David Astley moved in with Sian and her partner, Martin, because she didn't want her father to worry about money

£120

David Astley's monthly electricity bill — nearly a quarter of his state pension

£800

The highest average weekly cost of a care home

become a pragmatic choice in a cost of living crisis. David will be helping his daughter with shopping and energy costs, meanwhile freeing up his flat will help with the housing crisis, which is one of her passions.

However, it can also pose financial challenges over assets and inheritance, which is why it remains a difficult choice that might not be appropriate, affordable or possible for many.

Chris Brooks, the head of policy at the charity Age UK, said: "These decisions are incredibly delicate, but may be the only option for many people."

The first decision you need to make about an older relative moving in with you is: what happens to their money and any property they own? This is especially important if you need cash to alter your home to accommodate them.

Is your parent going to pay rent – and who will set it? What about helping with bills and shopping?

Rows can quickly escalate even in the most loving families if the financial situation is not spelt out. If you are taking in a loved one it is worth keeping a record of all the spending.

There are also thorny inheritance

questions to consider. If several family members stand to benefit from an estate, parents need to be clear about how their changing circumstances may affect any inheritance. For example, if your parent spends their savings helping to pay your bills, other siblings may be aggrieved. Similarly, if you have spent money looking after a parent and other siblings get more inheritance, that could cause big rifts.

Then there is the gnarly issue of care fees. If an elderly person moves in with you, handing over some of their assets in the process, but then later needs to go into care, this could leave them open to a bill they cannot afford.

When someone goes into care, their local council makes a financial assessment of their income, savings and property value. Under the rules anyone who has capital of more than £23,250 usually has to pay for their care. Anyone with assets worth £14,250 to £23,250 must pay something towards it, and anyone with less than £14,250 will have their residential care paid for. The local authority may, however, also look at the income of family members who live with the person going into care and ask them to pay a

contribution. Someone who requires health care will usually get their residential care paid for.

If a council considers that someone gave away their property to avoid care fees, it could be considered a deliberate Deprivation of Assets and they could be asked to pay more.

Age UK says the average care home bill is £600 to £800 a week, but it can vary hugely depending on where you live and your specific needs.

Sian said: "I don't want Dad to get into a financial pickle, to be worried about putting the heating on or not eating well. It seems inevitable to me that this crisis is going to get worse and last a long time."

"Of course families are complicated, but elderly people, wherever possible, really do need their families to step up and offer help and support."

For the moment David is happy and settling in. He said: "I was very anxious about bills going up and being able to afford to eat properly, so this decision was the right one."

"Now I'm more worried about my daughter's cleanliness regime and her making me eat green veg – like that disgusting kale she buys."

## Look to smaller firms to boost your income

David Brenchley

Dividend payments from Britain's smallest listed companies hit £574 million in the first six months of 2022, up 7.4 per cent on the first half of last year, according to the data firm Link Group.

Companies listed on the Alternative Investment Market (Aim) are expected to pay total dividends this year of £1.2 billion, 3 per cent more than they paid in 2021 but still below their peak of £1.3 billion set in 2019.

Companies listed on the Aim, often described as the junior stock market, tend to be smaller and less mature than firms on the FTSE. Many do not pay dividends because they reinvest their profits to grow.

The stock market has an overall dividend yield of 1.2 per cent, rising to 2.1 per cent when you exclude non-dividend payers. The FTSE 100 yields 4 per cent.

Payouts on Aim are expected to be lower because of a drop in special dividends, which will be about half the levels of 2021. Last year was a bumper year for specials, making it difficult to make meaningful comparisons. Special dividends are paid by companies outside of their normal dividend policy. They usually result from bumper profits or an acquisition.

The IT firm iNergizer paid out £94 million in special dividends last year plus a £31 million normal dividend payment. It was the biggest dividend payout by an Aim-listed company since Link started tracking the data in 2012.

The premium mixer drinks maker Fever-Tree rewarded shareholders with £50 million in special dividends this year, making it the top payer on the Aim in the first half of the 2022. The stock yields 1.8 per cent.

Ian Stokes from Link Group said: "Corporate margins are under pressure and a potential recession is on the cards, which will affect the ability and willingness of Aim companies to return cash to shareholders."

£50m

Special dividend payout by the mixer maker FeverTree

## How to figure out the right time to buy an annuity

A guaranteed income in retirement suddenly seems more attractive thanks to rising rates, but when should you take the plunge, asks *Lily Russell-Jones*

Elisabeth Jones wanted the financial security of a fixed retirement income. Jones, 69, who is married and lives in Pinner, northwest London, had a stroke three years ago and has reached a point where she wants to stop worrying about managing her household's money.

She decided to use some of her pension funds to buy an annuity, an insurance product that pays a set amount each year in return for a lump sum.

"I have normally handled the money in the house, but I was definitely getting to the point where I didn't want to any more. I felt like I actually was not capable," Jones said.

At first Jones was disappointed by the annuity rates on offer.

"I was thinking I would have to live to about 132 to get my money back."

They have been improving, however, and last month she was able to trade in a £176,000 pension pot for an income of £12,500 a year.

Her health issues were

factored into the payout. She was also able to get a higher rate because the policy is not index linked, meaning that the payments will not rise in line with inflation. Jones took out a policy that will not pay her husband an income if she dies, and to make back her money she will need to live for 14 years.

"My decision wasn't purely on a financial basis; it was definitely on an emotional basis as well," Jones said. "Life felt as though it was all over the place. This was something I could do which felt solid. It was done and dusted and out of the way."

She gets the payments on top of her state pension of £7,400 a year and teacher's pension of about £9,000, both of which are inflation-linked. Jones will get about £29,000 from her pensions and annuity this year. "Quite honestly, my living costs are being covered by my husband who is still working, so we are barely spending it."

She plans to use her income to cover rising living



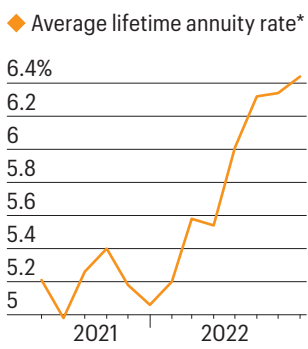
Elisabeth Jones gets £12,500 a year from her annuity

costs, any care needs, and to leave an inheritance for their daughter, who is 37.

Should you buy an annuity?

Annuity sales fell off a cliff when the chancellor George Osborne introduced pension freedoms in 2015, which meant most people with a defined contribution scheme (as opposed to a final salary scheme) no longer had to automatically trade in their pension savings for an annuity as soon as they retired. You now have more scope to keep your pension pot invested and take an income from it, which is known as drawdown, and when annuity rates were at rock bottom, most people took that route.

In 2012 about 400,000 annuity policies were sold by



\*The average lifetime rate for a level, lifetime annuity purchased at age 65. Source: Retirement Line

insurers. In the 2020-2021 tax year that was down to about 60,000 and only 10 per cent of pension funds were accessed to buy an annuity.

But with rising annuity rates, this is changing. The average rate secured last month was 6.44 per cent, meaning a 65-year-old could

swap a £100,000 pot for an income of £6,440 a year throughout their retirement. In January the average rate was 5.06 per cent.

Samuel Mather-Holgate from the advisory firm Mather & Murray Financial said: "We are seeing a surge in customers asking for this type of pension income."

Flex first, fix later

The pensions consultancy Lane Clark and Peacock (LCP) said that most savers would benefit from using drawdown at first, then trading in their savings for an annuity in later retirement in a "flex now, fix later" approach.

While drawdown is flexible it comes with challenges. Poor investment choices and rampant inflation could erode the value of your pot and it can be hard to predict how much money you will need to see you through retirement.

Finding the right time to switch to an annuity is another challenge. LCP modelling suggests most people would be better off buying an annuity in their late seventies or early eighties. It said that someone who retired at 60 with a £150,000 pot should switch from drawdown to an annuity at 76 to maintain an income of £17,333 a year.

Someone who was able to live off £13,000 a year should buy an annuity at 82, the researchers said.

The maths

To figure out for yourself when you should buy an annuity you could adopt a simpler version of the weighting formula used by LCP. It decided to put a weighting on different factors to create a "utility value" for each strategy, weighing up economic and emotional costs to take into account the

fact that some people valued peace of mind more than the chance of higher returns.

For example, income of £100 from an annuity was treated as having a utility value of £100. However, £100 of income into your pension pot from good investment decisions was said to be only worth £80 because the strategy used to obtain it was risky. Meanwhile, every £100 saved to pass on as an inheritance was given a utility value of just £10 because it would not be spent.

So the strategy of a pensioner who bought a £100,000 annuity that paid out £4,000 a year for 25 years would have been deemed by LCP to have a utility value of £100,000.

A drawdown strategy for a pot worth £100,000 giving an income of £5,200 a year until the pot ran out (the £100,000 initial investment plus £30,000 gains) would have been given a utility value of £124,000 because of the extra risks of income generated through drawdown.

When to switch

It is worth looking at all your sources of income in retirement before deciding whether to buy an annuity. For example, if you get the full state pension and have a guaranteed income from a defined benefit pension, which pays a guaranteed income for life, you might have different needs to someone without a fixed income.

The Pension Policy Institute this week said that someone without a supplementary income entering retirement with a mortgage or credit card debt should switch to an annuity sooner. This would maximise their income overall as long as they were not expecting any large expenses.

## ‘Mum and Dad’ WhatsApp scams double in a year

David Byers

The number of victims being caught out by fraudsters pretending to be their loved ones on WhatsApp is twice as high as it was last year.

Lloyds Banking Group, which has 30 million customers, said double the number of cases of so-called Mum and Dad scams (the messages often start, "Hi Mum, I have lost my phone") were reported in the first half of this year compared with the same period in 2021. Victims lost £1,610 on average.

The bank said that scams on WhatsApp, which is owned by Facebook's parent company Meta, are becoming more popular than cold-call or text scams where fraudsters pretend to be from HM Revenue & Customs. It said the number of these scams was down 85 per cent in the first half of this year compared with 2021.

In a Mum and Dad scam, fraudsters will send messages to parents pretending they are a distressed relative who badly needs money. The con artist will usually say that they have lost their old phone, which explains why they are getting in touch from an unknown number, and ask for urgent funds to be sent.

Scammers often get victims' details by buying a list of phone numbers from the dark web, a part of the internet that is invisible to search engines and is accessed anonymously, and

send out thousands of messages. Most will be deleted, but scammers rely on the fact that the occasional one will resonate with someone.

In July, *The Times* reported the case of Jackie York who was tricked into sending hundreds of pounds to someone purporting to be her son, Nick, a recovering addict. She panicked because she feared he had relapsed.

UK Finance, the banking industry body, said that impersonation fraud cost victims £77.5 million last year, up 39 per cent on 2020.

To avoid being scammed be wary of messages you get from any number that is not in your contacts. If you are in any doubt about who it is you should ring the original number you have saved for that person to check if it is really them. Always insist on speaking to someone before sending them money.

Liz Ziegler, the fraud prevention director at Lloyds, said that WhatsApp scams have largely emerged during the last 12 months and are growing rapidly.

"It shows just how quickly these ruthless organised crime gangs will adapt their tactics if they think they can make more money," she said.

"Fraud is now the most common crime and banks can't fight it alone. Stopping scams needs to be a shared responsibility. It is vital that government, big tech, law enforcement and social media firms play their part."



# Ian Cowie Personal Account

## Want to make a make a profit from a DIY boom? You can do it, if you B&Q it



Our new prime minister, Liz Truss, unlike her controversial predecessor, is not the sort of person to pepper her conversation with references to Roman politicians such as Cincinnatus. But, as the first accountant to occupy 10 Downing Street, she might be more likely to get the numbers right.

Savers and investors can also draw comfort from our new chancellor of the exchequer, Kwasi Kwarteng, being unusually qualified for his work. He has an economics PhD from Cambridge.

Here and now you do not need to be an accountant or an economist to know that the cheapest energy of all is the gas, electricity, oil or coal you don't need to buy. That's why it's so sad that the government proposals we have seen so far to cope with the energy crisis include nothing to improve the insulation of Britain's notoriously draughty housing stock.

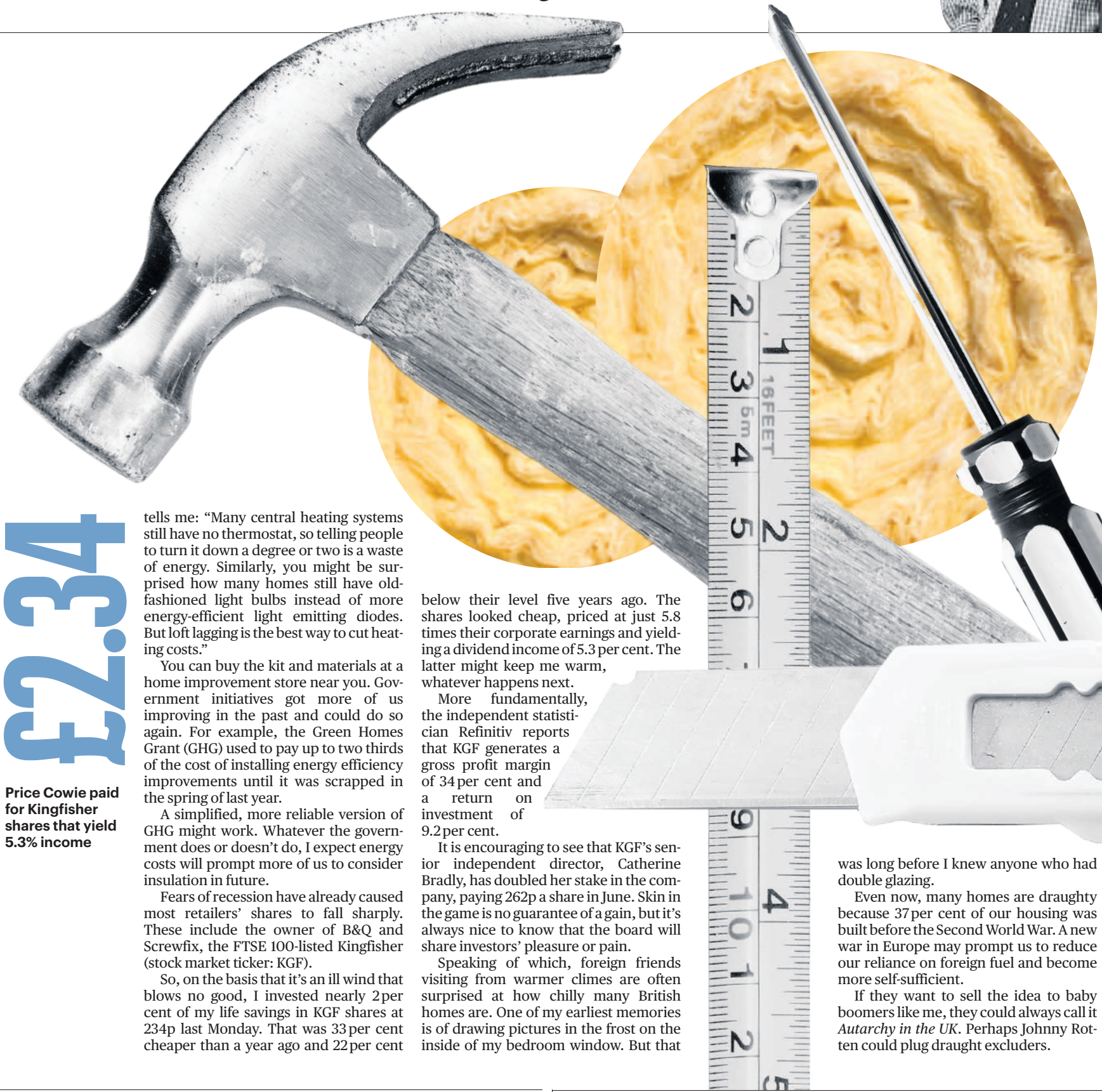
Short-term fixes to freeze household bills might get us through next winter, but they will do nothing to solve the long-term problem of relying on foreign fuel. Nor will price caps do much to stimulate our domestic economy, while fuel from fracking and new North Sea oil wells is several years away.

By contrast, we could all feel a warm glow on both fronts immediately if Kwarteng's forthcoming "fiscal event" fires the starting gun on a home insulation boom. There is no doubt about how much it is needed.

According to the Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, a third of all homes with a loft have no loft insulation. As a result, a quarter of the energy expended on heating these 8million properties disappears straight through the roof. Kwarteng will know that because until the week before last he headed the department. Better still, from a traditional Tory point of view, improving our home insulation need not involve government bureaucracy.

Instead we must make it cheaper and easier for people to improve their property. For some homeowners, tenants and landlords this could be a rewarding DIY challenge, while others will prefer to pay someone who can get up and down a ladder without risking life or limb.

Improving home insulation is not rocket science. Nor is it just about lagging lofts. My favourite plumber, Lucy Owens,



£2.34

Price Cowie paid for Kingfisher shares that yield 5.3% income

tells me: "Many central heating systems still have no thermostat, so telling people to turn it down a degree or two is a waste of energy. Similarly, you might be surprised how many homes still have old-fashioned light bulbs instead of more energy-efficient light emitting diodes. But loft lagging is the best way to cut heating costs."

You can buy the kit and materials at a home improvement store near you. Government initiatives got more of us improving in the past and could do so again. For example, the Green Homes Grant (GHG) used to pay up to two thirds of the cost of installing energy efficiency improvements until it was scrapped in the spring of last year.

A simplified, more reliable version of GHG might work. Whatever the government does or doesn't do, I expect energy costs will prompt more of us to consider insulation in future.

Fears of recession have already caused most retailers' shares to fall sharply. These include the owner of B&Q and Screwfix, the FTSE 100-listed Kingfisher (stock market ticker: KGF).

So, on the basis that it's an ill wind that blows no good, I invested nearly 2per cent of my life savings in KGF shares at 234p last Monday. That was 33per cent cheaper than a year ago and 22per cent

below their level five years ago. The shares looked cheap, priced at just 5.8 times their corporate earnings and yielding a dividend income of 5.3 per cent. The latter might keep me warm, whatever happens next.

More fundamentally, the independent statistician Refinitiv reports that KGF generates a gross profit margin of 34 per cent and a return on investment of 9.2 per cent.

It is encouraging to see that KGF's senior independent director, Catherine Bradly, has doubled her stake in the company, paying 262p a share in June. Skin in the game is no guarantee of a gain, but it's always nice to know that the board will share investors' pleasure or pain.

Speaking of which, foreign friends visiting from warmer climes are often surprised at how chilly many British homes are. One of my earliest memories is of drawing pictures in the frost on the inside of my bedroom window. But that

was long before I knew anyone who had double glazing.

Even now, many homes are draughty because 37 per cent of our housing was built before the Second World War. A new war in Europe may prompt us to reduce our reliance on foreign fuel and become more self-sufficient.

If they want to sell the idea to baby boomers like me, they could always call it *Autarchy in the UK*. Perhaps Johnny Rotten could plug draught excluders.

## I have 14% of my money in energy – and I want more

Stock market investment is often a relatively simple business of following the money. That means noting which goods and services are selling profitably before buying into the businesses that provide them.

So this small shareholder was pleased to hear Liz Truss prioritise the "energy crisis" in her £150 billion bid to "ride out the storm" because 14 per cent of my 'forever fund' is invested in renewable energy and fossil fuel businesses.

Ecofin Global Utilities & Infrastructure (EGL), whose interests include wind and solar power, is just outside my top ten holdings by value. I bought shares in this investment trust for £1.52 in September, 2019. They closed trading at £2.44 on Friday and yielded 3.4 per cent income.

Gulf Investment Fund (GIF), which focuses on Qatar, one of the biggest sources of liquefied natural gas (LNG), is my second most valuable energy stake. Shares I bought for \$1.86 in February hit \$2.18 on Friday, yielding 2.75 per cent.

It's more than a decade since I first invested in Sheffield's green hydrogen-maker, ITM Power (ITM), before bumping up exposure at £1.24 in January, 2020, and taking profits at £5.39 a year later on shares that now trade at £1.66.

Along with Exxon Mobil (XOM), US Solar Fund (USFP) and Woodside Energy (WDS), these businesses enable me to participate in the necessities of life, where prices are rising and demand is unlikely to fall. All were reported to readers at the time and I intend to buy more when dividend income allows.

3.4%

Dividend yield on Ecofin Global Utilities (EGL) investment trust

## The FTSE stocks that will still beat the best rate on savings

David Brenchley

The gap between the dividend yield offered by large UK companies and the best one-year savings rate is at its narrowest in a decade.

The difference between the two is 0.68 percentage points, the first time it has been below 1 percentage points since March 2013. The last time it was anything like this close was in November 2012, when the gap was 0.5 percentage points.

The best one-year fixed rate bond, offered by Virgin Money, pays 3.32 per cent, two and a half times January's top rate of 1.36 per cent. In December 2020 the best rate was 0.85 per cent.

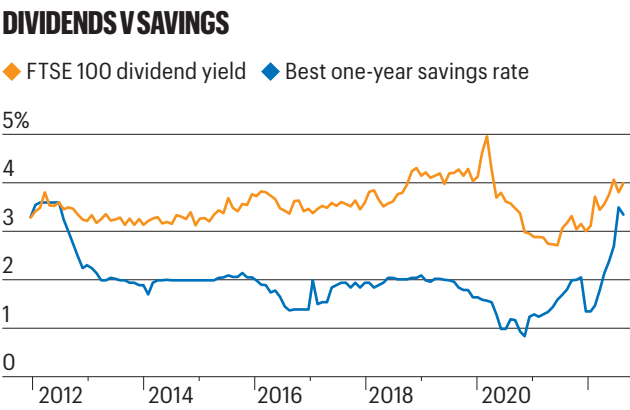
The UK's blue-chip stock index, the FTSE 100, has an average yield of 4 per cent, up from 2.72 per cent in July 2021. The yield has increased because dividends have remained steady while share prices have fallen.

Savings rates have increased as the Bank of England has hiked the base rate of interest. It has gone up six times since December, from a low of 0.1 per cent to 1.75 per cent today. Another hike is expected when the Bank committee meets next.

The narrowing gap presents a dilemma. Now that it is possible to get a decent rate on a short-term savings account, which comes with much less risk and does not require locking your money away for a long period of time, do we still need to invest in the risky stock market?

"There is something to be said for having some cash in an investment portfolio, and with a return of 3.35 per cent, your money is secure," said Richard Hunter, the head of markets at the platform Interactive Investor.

The problem, of course, is inflation. Consumer prices inflation was an average of 10.1 per cent for the year to July and the research firm



Capital Economics predicts a peak of 11 per cent in October. Even with interest of 3.35 per cent for the next 12 months, savers would be losing about 7 per cent in real terms on those figures.

"Savings rates are much more attractive than they were, but the fundamentals of investing versus cash haven't changed just because there is an increase in interest rates," said Kirsty Stone from the financial advice firm the Private Office.

"You invest for the long term. If you need access to any liquidity within the next 12 months to three years, then investing is not the right thing for you."

The general rule of thumb is to keep between three to six months of outgoings in cash or easy-access accounts so that you can meet any emergency needs.

Once that is in place, if you do not want to take on the risk of the stock market, search out the best-paying savings accounts.

If you are happy to tie up your money for five or ten years and longer, investing is sensible. "At least with equities you have the potential for both share price gains and dividend growth," said Jason Hollands from the wealth manager Evelyn Partners.

The share prices of British companies have risen, on average, 2.9 per cent a year

“Half the companies in the FTSE 100 have yields above 3.32%

after inflation over the past 20 years compared with a 1.1 per cent loss from cash. American stocks have risen 7 per cent a year after inflation over that period.

A benefit of savings accounts is that your money is protected. The Financial Services Compensation Scheme covers up to £85,000 of savings if your bank goes bust. With investing, there is always the risk that the value of your capital could fall.

If you are investing for income – because you are at or nearing retirement, for example – looking for dividend-paying shares is a rational thing to do. Beware of chasing the highest yield, however, or you might get caught in a "dividend trap" where a company loses much of its value because it has paid out so much in dividends.

Hunter said: "It is worth considering a stock's

dividend cover, which should give some comfort that the dividend is affordable."

Dividend cover can be calculated by dividing a company's dividends per share (DPS) on its balance sheet by the earnings per share (EPS). Look for a number above 1.5, or ideally higher than 2. Anything lower than 1.2 is bad news.

Which firms should you back?

Half the companies in the FTSE 100 and two fifths of those in the FTSE 250 have a dividend yield of more than 3.32 per cent, according to dividenddata.co.uk.

Hunter highlighted the oil giant Shell, the cigarette maker British American Tobacco and the weapons maker BAE Systems as companies with yields above 3.5 per cent and share price rises this year of more than 20 per cent.

If you want a ready-made portfolio of companies offering a high yield, then investment trusts could be for you. These are a type of investment fund, and because they are listed on the stock market they have their own share price and dividend.

There are 117 investment trusts that yield more than 3.5 per cent, according to the Association of Investment Companies, and 17 that have increased their dividends annually for at least 20 years. Some, however, have a yield of 2 per cent or less.

Alan Brierley from the research firm Investec picked Temple Bar investment trust, which yields 3.8 per cent. Brierley said: "We like the focus on quality companies with strong cash-flows and robust balance sheets."

Cash versus investing is an age old question, Stone said. For now, even if savings rates have risen, the answer is the same as it has always been: save for short-term events; invest for the long term.

## Starting in The Times tomorrow: The Queen | A life

A week long tribute to Her Majesty The Queen, featuring the many aspects of her life with unrivalled commentary and photographs.

Part one: A family affair - the life and loves of her children

Commemorative magazines will be published next weekend.





# Own goal: what happened when football clubs urged their fans to buy crypto

Supporters were told that buying tokens would help their team – but the assets have bombed, reports *Lily Russell-Jones*

Manchester City fans are not used to losing. City have won four of the past five Premier League seasons and are unbeaten so far this season. Yet dedicated fans are facing a different kind of loss after investing in fan tokens whose values have plunged by as much as 75 per cent. The tokens are a type of crypto asset – think cryptocurrencies for football fans – and have been launched by the Premier League teams Aston Villa, Everton, Arsenal, Manchester City, Leeds United and Crystal Palace. Fans were promised the chance to “own a share of influence of your team”, “get in the driving seat”, “join a new era of super fans” and even “turn your dreams into reality”. The claims are made by Socios, an app that partners with sport teams – 66 worldwide so far – to sell fan tokens. Six Premier League clubs are among them, as are the Aston

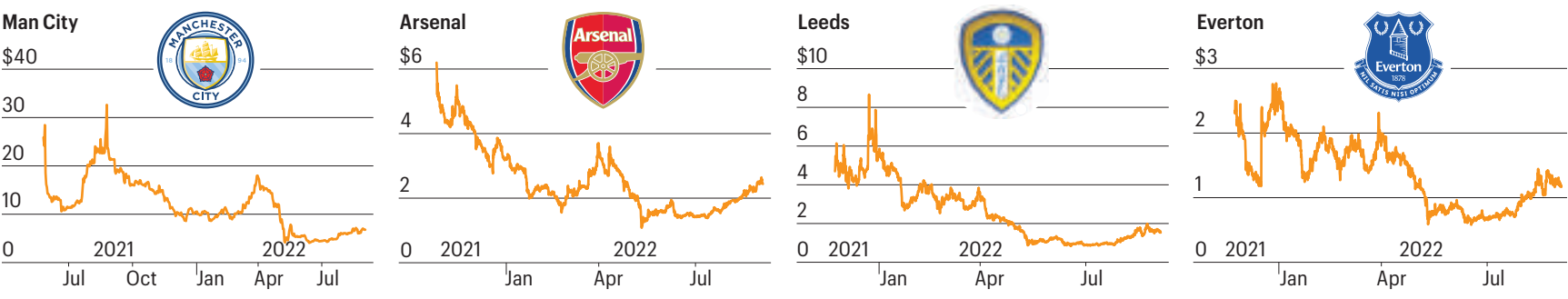
Martin F1 Team and Saracens Rugby. The value of Manchester City tokens has plummeted from \$26 to \$6.55 since they began trading 15 months ago.

**What are fan tokens?** Fan tokens are a type of crypto asset. According to Socios, they “are not specifically a cryptocurrency”. What this means is anyone’s guess since the tokens behave just like cryptocurrencies. Ownership is recorded publicly on a digital ledger known as a blockchain, the same technology used to manage other cryptocurrencies. The tokens allow owners to enter draws to win club merchandise and tickets and occasionally get a say on low-stakes decisions such as which

song will be played after a win. You do not need to be a member of a club to buy tokens. Premier League clubs have run promotions giving members access to one free fan token each for a limited time. Additional tokens must be bought online. To buy tokens on the Socios app you must first buy chiliz, a cryptocurrency run by Alexandre Dreyfus, the founder and chief executive of Socios. Transactions made using fan tokens are recorded on the chiliz blockchain. The Italian team Juventus were the first to launch fan tokens on the Socios app in 2019. You can buy fan tokens on other crypto exchanges using Tether, the stablecoin – a less volatile form of cryptocurrency pegged to the value of the US dollar. You can buy, sell or trade the tokens on these exchanges like any other cryptocurrency. There are fears that some people may be buying these tokens without fully appreciating the risks. Socios says fan tokens are utility tokens and not an investment asset. The median amount spent on tokens is £21 and 89 per cent of holders have 25 fan tokens or fewer. There is nothing to stop someone buying fan tokens in the hope that the price will rise. As with any investment, the value can go up as well as down, and as with many cryptocurrencies, there is often no obvious reason for price movements.

**How have they performed?** The value of fan tokens has dropped sharply since the coins began trading on the Socios marketplace.

The decline of the value in football fan tokens compared to their value when they began trading



Bukayo Saka of Arsenal

adverts failed to mention that to buy multiple tokens, fans would have to set up a crypto wallet and buy chiliz. Links between sports teams and crypto firms don't end with fan tokens. Last year, the exchange crypto.com signed a 20-year deal for naming rights to the Staples Center multi-sport venue in Los Angeles, thought to be worth \$700 million. Last season, Watford FC players wore shirts featuring the logo of the crypto gambling and betting site stake.com as well as the logo for the cryptocurrency Dogecoin. Of the 20 Premier League clubs, 18 are sponsored by companies that facilitate crypto trading or gambling. Manchester City's training kit features the logo of OKX, a Seychelles-based crypto exchange. Leicester City shirts

advertise the Cyprus-based investment platform FBS, which allows users to make risky leveraged trades with cryptocurrency. This season Manchester United and Fulham shirts promote the crypto projects Tezos and Worldmobile. The UK's financial watchdog, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), does not regulate crypto investments, so investors are unlikely to be compensated if their money is lost. Some clubs are dabbling in other crypto assets. Liverpool celebrated the start of the new season by launching a collection of non-fungible tokens (NFTs) with the auction house Sotheby's. NFTs are digital certificates that prove the ownership of assets such as art, music or videos on a blockchain. Sotheby's sold a series of cartoon images called "Liverpool Heroes", including the manager Jurgen Klopp and the player Mohamed Salah, and raised \$1.5 million – equivalent to about \$154 each. The images now sell for as little as £44.93 on the largest NFT marketplace, Opensea. Forthcoming government legislation could derail high-profile sponsorship deals between crypto firms and football clubs. Last month the FCA said it will publish rules for crypto advertisements once new legislation brings it under its remit. The new rules could restrict certain cryptocurrency promotions that target non-professional investors. Last week a lucrative deal between crypto.com and the Uefa Champions League fell through because of concerns about regulation. Yet crypto firms can still pour millions of pounds into partnerships with Premier League clubs. The campaign group Clean Up Gambling said, "In the wake of a crypto and NFT market crash that has led to thousands of people losing their life savings, Premier League clubs continue to jump on this bandwagon. They should stay well away from sports-washing such volatile investments." Socios said: "With fans typically spending about £20 or less on tokens, it is clear tokens are generally not being used as investment products. Their value is in the rewards and experiences they deliver to fans and we make this clear in our materials. We are keen to play an active role with policymakers so that there is appropriate regulation for this new product and technology."

# Best Buys

## CURRENT ACCOUNTS

CREDIT INTEREST					
Provider	Account name	Account fee	Reward	Balance (for reward)	Contact
Halifax	Reward Current Account	None	£5 a month	–	0345 720 3040
Nationwide	FlexDirect	None	£5% AER	–	0800 30 20 10
TSB	Spend & Save	None	£5 a month	–	0345 975 8758

OVERDRAFTS *					
Provider	Account name	Account fee	Interest rate <sup>1</sup>	0% overdraft limit	Contact
Starling Bank	Current Account	None	15%	£0	starlingbank.com
First Direct	1st Account	None	39.9%	£250	0345 600 2424
Virgin Money	M Plus Account	None	19.9%	£0	0800 678 3654

<sup>1</sup> Equivalent annual rate.  
\* Based on overdraft of £500 for 7 days a month.  
Some accounts require minimum funding/direct debits to open or receive rates shown.  
Source: moneyfacts.co.uk

## CREDIT CARDS

INTRODUCTORY RATES					
Provider	Card type	Introductory purchase	APR <sup>1</sup>	Reward	Contact
Sainsburys	Dual Offer MC	0% for 24 months	21.9%	Yes	08085 40 50 60
M&S Bank	Shopping Offer Plus MC	0% for 24 months	21.9%	Yes	0800 997996
Barclaycard	Platinum Allrounder V	0% for 24 months	22.9%	No	0800 151 0900

BALANCE TRANSFERS					
Provider	Card type	Introductory purchase	Transfer fee <sup>2</sup>	APR <sup>1</sup>	Contact
Sainsbury's Bank	Balance Transfer MC	0% for 34 months	2.88% (min £3)	21.9%	08085 40 50 60
MBNA	Long 0% BT MC	0% for 34 months	2.99% (no min)	21.9%	0345 606 2062
Halifax	Longest 0% BT MC	0% for 34 months	3.49% (no min)	21.9%	0345 944 4555

CASHBACK CARDS					
Provider	Card type	APR <sup>1</sup>	Cashback	Contact	
American Express	Platinum Cashback	31.3%	0.75%-1.25%. Intro 5% for 3 months	0800 917 8047	
American Express	Platinum Cashback Everyday	26%	0.5%-1%. Intro 5% for 3 months	0800 917 8047	
Halifax	Cashback MC	19.9%	0.25-0.5%	0345 944 4555	

<sup>1</sup> APR = annual percentage rate, dependent on credit rating. <sup>2</sup> Fee charged on the amount of each balance transfer during the introductory period.  
Source: moneyfacts.co.uk

## SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

INSTANT ACCESS				
Provider	Account name	Min deposit	Interest rate	Contact
Al Rayan	Everyday Saver Issue 3	£5,000	2.1%	alrayanbank.co.uk
Gatehouse Bank	Easy Access Account	£1,000	2%	gatehousebank.com
Zopa	Smart Saver	£1	1.81%	zopa.com

NOTICE ACCOUNTS				
Provider	Account name	Notice period	Min deposit	Interest rate
Bank of London and the Middle East	90 Day Notice Account Issue 5	90 days	£1,000	2.5%
Al Rayan	120 Day Notice Savings Account	120 days	No minimum	2.4%
Oaknorth	90 Day Notice Deposit Account Issue 22	90 days	£1	2.26%

FIXED-RATE BONDS				
Provider	Account name	Term	Min deposit	Interest rate
Virgin Money	1 Year Fixed Rate Ebond Issue 495	1 year	£1	3.32%
Oaknorth	24 Month Fixed Term Savings Account	2 years	£1	3.52%
Cahoot	3 Year Fixed Rate Bond	3 years	£500	3.6%

DEALS ARE LISTED ONLY IF THEY ARE COVERED BY THE UK FINANCIAL SERVICES COMPENSATION SCHEME (FSCS) OR A EUROPEAN EQUIVALENT \*MUST HOLD A CURRENT ACCOUNT WITH THE PROVIDER  
Source: savingschampion.co.uk — 0808 178 5354

ENERGY DEALS			
Prices for average household. Variable rate tariffs are limited by Ofgem's price cap and may be lower.			
Supplier	Average annual bill	Rate	Contact
No fixed rates on offer — variable rates limited by the price cap:			
Utility Warehouse	£1,961	V	0333 777 0777
Octopus Energy	£1,969	V	0808 164 1088
*Phone numbers provided will call through to theenergyshop.com switch support team. Source: theenergyshop.com — 0800 448 0205			

## FOREIGN CURRENCY

Interbank rates at 5pm on Friday, which show where the market is trading. They are not indicative of the rate you could get.

EURO  
GBP>EUR

1.15

USA  
GBP>USD

1.15

SWITZERLAND  
GBP>CHF

1.11

AUSTRALIA  
GBP>AUD

1.69

## MORTGAGES

2-YEAR FIXED RATES						
Lender	Rate	Scheme	Deposit	Fee	Notes	Contact
Skipton BS	3.57%	Fixed to 30.11.24	40%	£995	LV	0345 850 1755
Barclays	3.8%	Fixed to 30.11.24	15%	£999	RS	0333 202 7580
Santander	3.89%	Fixed to 02.12.24	10%	£999	PV	0800 068 6064

3-YEAR FIXED RATES						
Lender	Rate	Scheme	Deposit	Fee	Notes	Contact
Skipton BS	3.62%	Fixed to 30.11.25	40%	£995	LV	0345 850 1755
Coventry BS	3.87%	Fixed for 28.02.26	15%	£999	LV	0800 783 8999
West Brom BS	4.29%	Fixed to 30.11.25	5%	£0	PV	0800 298 0008

LONG-TERM FIXED RATES						
Lender	Rate	Scheme	Deposit	Fee	Notes	Contact
HSBC	3.53%	Fixed to 31.10.27	60%	£999	RS	0800 494 999
Lloyds	3.65%	Fixed to 30.11.27	25%	£999	RS	0800 783 3534
HSBC	3.88%	Fixed to 31.10.27	10%	£999	FPV	0800 494 999
Barclays	3.65%	Fixed to 30.11.32	40%	£999	LV	0333 202 7580

TRACKERS' / DISCOUNTS						
Lender	Rate	Scheme	Deposit	Fee	Notes	Contact
Skipton BS	2.47%	Tracker + 0.72% for 2 years	40%	£995	ELV	0345 850 1755
Furness BS	2.69%	3.4% discount for 2 years	5%	£0	DV	0800 220 568
Newbury	2.34%	2.11% discount for 5 years	25%	£850	LV	01633 555 5777
First Direct	3.69%	Tracker+1.94% for term	25%	£490	ELV	0800 482 448

FIRST-TIME BUYER / LOW DEPOSIT						
Lender	Rate	Scheme	Deposit	Fee	Notes	Contact
Barclays	4.2%	Fixed to 30.11.24	5%	£0	BPV	0333 202 7580
Santander	4.14%	Fixed to 02.12.27	5%	£0	DPV	0800 068 6064
Barclays	3.45%	Fixed to 30.11.27	25%	£0	HPV	0333 202 7580

BUY TO LET						
Lender	Rate	Scheme	Deposit	Fee	Notes	Contact
Skipton	2.74%	Tracker +0.99% for 2 years	25%	£995	ELV	0345 850 1755
Post Office	3.29%	Fixed to 31.12.24	25%	£495		0800 077 8033
Barclays	3.75%	Fixed to 30.11.27	40%	£0	LV	0333 202 7580

Early repayment charge applies unless otherwise stated. \* Most deals track Bank of England base rate.  
C = £500 cashback for purchases; E = No early repayment charge; F = £500 cashback for first-time buyers; H = Help to Buy; L = Free legal work for remortgages; M = £300 cashback for purchases; N = £250 cash back for purchases; O = £250 cash back; P = Purchases only; R = Free legal work and valuation for remortgages; S = Remortgage only; V = Free valuation  
Source: landc.co.uk — 0800 373 300

## CASH ISAs

INSTANT ACCESS					
Provider	Account name	Min deposit	Interest	Transfers in	Contact
Gatehouse Bank	Easy Access Cash Isa	£1	1.75%	Yes	gatehousebank.co.uk
Tipton & Coasey BS	Limited Issue Isa	£25,000	1.75%	Yes	thetipton.co.uk

FIXED RATE					
Provider	Account name	Term	Min deposit	Rate	Transfers in
Virgin Money	1 Year Fixed rate e-Isa Issue 511	1 year	£1	2.62%	Yes
United Bank UK	2 Year Fixed Rate Cash Isa 2 years	2 years	£2,000	3.06%	Yes

Source: savingschampion.co.uk — 0808 178 5354

## CHILDREN'S ACCOUNTS

Provider	Account name	Account type	Min deposit	Interest rate	Contact
HSBC	MySavings	Regular Saver	£10	3.2%	hsbc.co.uk
Principality BS	Dylan Regular Savings Bond Issue 10	Regular Saver	£10	3.2%	principality.co.uk
Kent Reliance	Demelza Account Issue 7	Current Account	£10	3.05%	kentreliance.co.uk

JUNIOR ISA:					
Provider	Account name	Min deposit	Interest rate	Rate	Contact
Monmouthshire BS	Junior Cash Isa Issue 4	£10	2.8%	Variable	monbs.co.uk
Coventry BS	Junior Isa Issue 2	£1	2.6%	Variable	coventrybuildingsociety.co.uk
Loughborough BS	Junior Isa	£1	2.5%	Variable	theloughborough.co.uk

Source: savingschampion.co.uk — 0808 178 5354

## THE FIVER



## FIVE THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ... SHARED BANK HUBS

- Shared hubs will act like traditional branches, but allow customers of any bank to use them. They will have a counter service operated by staff from the Post Office where customers can withdraw and deposit cash, make bill payments and carry out regular banking transactions.
- The first hubs were tested last year in Rochford in Essex and Cambuslang in South Lanarkshire. So far, 60,000 customers have done £16 million worth of transactions.
- The hubs will also have private spaces where customers can speak to someone from their own bank for advice and support about more complex issues. Banks will provide staff on different days, on rotation.
- Last week Link, the cash machine provider, and the Access to Cash Action Group, which represents banks, announced 13 new shared bank hubs. This takes the planned total to 25, although only the test two are actually up and running now. Another ten are expected next year.
- The 13 new hubs will be in Brechin in Angus, Forres in Moray, Carlisle in Lanarkshire, Kirkcudbright in Dumfries & Galloway, Axminster in Devon, Barton-upon-Humber in Lincolnshire, Lutterworth in Leicestershire, Royal Wootton Bassett in Wiltshire, Cheadle in Staffordshire, Belper in Derbyshire, Maryport in Cumbria and Hornsea in Yorkshire. The first hub in Northern Ireland will open in Kilkeel in Co Down

**Ali Hussain**



MONEY

# Help us to end this timeshare nightmare

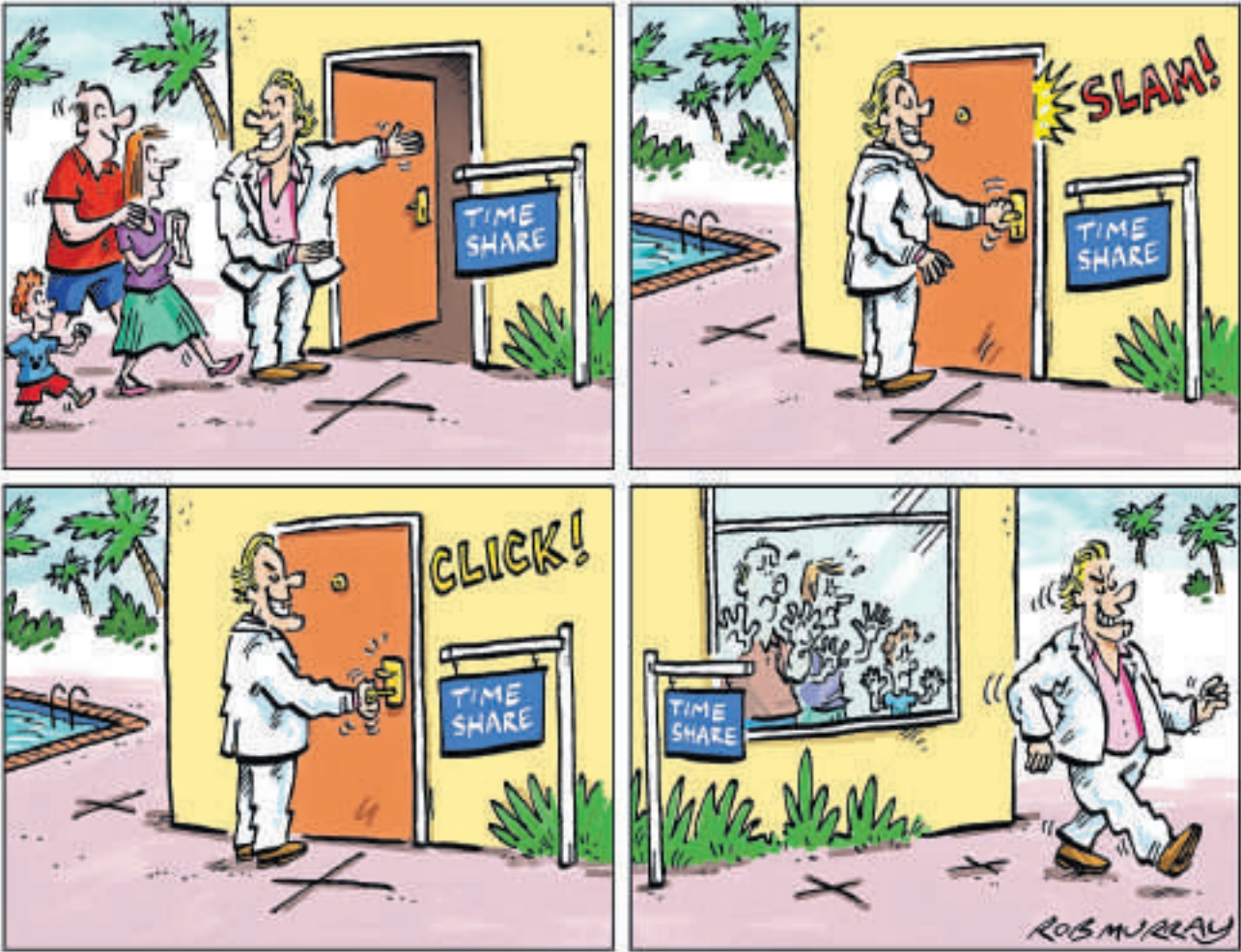


QUESTION OF MONEY  
JILL INSLEY

My parents bought a timeshare during a family holiday to Florida about 30 years ago. Suffice to say that the timeshare was never used and was a source of much regret, especially during later times of financial stress. Last year my father died suddenly, survived by my mother and his two children. After his death my mother passed me letters from the timeshare company to look into and asked me to help her give it up. The timeshare agreement is under US law and is not ended by death, but is to be passed as part of the deceased's estate, so is now a liability that passed to my mother. Looking at the letters, the timeshare owner is listed as my father alone and maintenance fees for 2020-22 were due totalling \$3,834 on October 13, 2021, with a high interest rate being charged. The timeshare is owned by Westgate Vacation Villas Owners' Association Inc. and I have tried to phone them to establish whether there is any value to the timeshare or whether it is purely a debt and future liability. The owner relations department would not discuss the account saying that I must send a death certificate and add my name to the account before they would speak with me, directing me to

the name change department, but it seems that they are just looking to have me sign up to the timeshare and the debt. Please can you give me guidance on what I should do?

**Jill replies**  
Do not sign anything. I contacted the Timeshare Consumer Association for advice and it told me that your timeshare will have no value whatsoever. In fact it is likely to cost you quite a bit of money to get rid of it – but not as much as the expense of hanging on to it. It is possible to renounce the inheritance of a timeshare but you have to be quick. The laws controlling how you do this differ from state to state, but in most states you have nine months from the time you inherit or, if you are under 21, you have nine months from your 21st birthday. It is important that you don't use or profit from the timeshare in any way before refusing it. The TCA says you must draw up a document of renunciation. This should include a description of the property, your statement declaring that you refuse the property and the timescale of your renunciation (for ever), your name, signature and the date. You need to make four copies of the document, keeping one for yourself. Send one by certified post to the executor of the estate, and one (also by certified post) to the timeshare company. Lastly, file a copy of the document in the probate court that is handling the estate that willed you the timeshare. This is your proof if it is ever required that you renounced the timeshare. The TCA says: "The reality is that few timeshare companies will enforce a contract after the demise of the owner, however this cannot be taken as gospel because it depends on the developer."



Your father's timeshare is in Florida, and probate granted in the UK is unlikely to suffice for the purposes of renouncing the property he has left to your mother. She may have to apply for probate in Florida, so the TCA suggests you contact the specialist Florida timeshare lawyer Finn Law. The TCA estimates that obtaining probate in Florida will cost \$1,500 for an estate of \$40,000 or less, and \$2,250 for estates between \$40,000 and \$70,000. Your mother has sadly been left a poison chalice, but it is better to deal with it now than leave it until you inherit the problem. The TCA says: "Put simply, get rid of it. Virtually all USA timeshares are written in 'perpetuity', meaning forever contracts, some older European ones also. Maintenance fees are the new lifeblood of timeshare developers, so the

idea of collecting them for ever is tempting. Getting out normally requires one form, maybe a fee, but then it's all over." For further information visit [timeshareconsumerassociation.org.uk](https://timeshareconsumerassociation.org.uk)

## We want to pay, but HMRC makes it hard

A few years ago Question of Money helped me when I was trying to get a tax refund from HMRC. This time I am having difficulty in paying a tax bill. In June I had a letter from HMRC saying I owed £77.40 and details of how to pay. When I logged in I was told I had paid the correct amount of tax. I thought this might be because the letter gave you 60 days to appeal, so I waited the 60 days. I tried again today and still got the same message. I have done the usual of trying to call HMRC but was just put on hold. I don't want to write because in the past I never got a reply and I don't want to send a random payment. Could you please help as I don't want to end up owing interest on a possible underpayment?

**Jill replies**  
You are exactly the kind of reader HMRC likes to hear from. I asked it to resolve your problem and a few days later it tried to contact you. You missed the call but logged in to your Gateway account anyway to check. It had been updated and you could pay the £77.40 owing.

## Let down by Barclays mortgage shambles

My father, who died a few months ago, took out an SAM [shared appreciation mortgage, where the lender gets a share of the property's value when it is sold] with Barclays in 1998. I and my two sisters, on the advice of Barclays, marketed his house and after several offers accepted a figure of just under £400,000. We have repeatedly tried to contact Barclays by letter, email and phone, for a final mortgage redemption figure but it does not return our calls, and rarely answers our letters. We have waited for hours on the phone and have asked for a manager to call us, but our call is never returned. The last correspondence we had from Barclays said that it required a valuation, we would be contacted by its appointed valuer, and the allowed period for this was 20 days. We are now well over that and still waiting. I am a Barclays Premier customer and have been into our local branch in Taunton for help. The staff there have tried but nobody from mortgage services will reply to them either. This has been going on for months and we are in danger of losing the house sale due to the bank's inability to supply the figure.

**Jill replies**  
I asked Barclays to speed up your

redemption calculation on August 12, and Barclays eventually sent it to you on August 25. It initially claimed it had not exceeded the 20-day time limit, but neither you nor I agree with it about the date when you first asked for a figure. It says it provided a redemption figure 20 working days on from July 20, the date on which it sent a letter asking you to clarify whether you wanted an illustrative reception statement based on your estimate of the property's value, or a final redemption statement based on a valuation carried out by an independent valuer. You said: "Having already advised Barclays that the house had been sold subject to contract, to me it is obvious which figure we required." You first asked for a final redemption statement on May 25 when you went into your local Barclays branch with the death certificate and a copy of the will. You said: "The lady photocopied both items and while we were in the branch sent them to the relevant departments. She also asked for a redemption figure and we were advised that they would contact us within 10 days." Hearing nothing more, you contacted the bank's bereavement and mortgage services teams at the end of June, requesting a mortgage settlement figure. After 14 days you were asked for proof of probate and identity, which you returned immediately along with a further request for a settlement figure. You called again on July 21, and wrote on July 25, again requesting an urgent settlement figure as you were in danger of losing the sale. On August 2 you went into the branch and a staff member contacted mortgage services and reiterated your request. By August 10 you had heard nothing, so called Barclays and this time managed to extract the name of the surveying company that had been appointed. You rang it to find out when the appointment would be, but were told that they had written to Barclays to say the firm could not do any valuations for 10-15 days and did they wish to put the valuation elsewhere. Apparently Barclays' reply was no. You pleaded with the surveyors firm, which found you a cancelled appointment. This took place on August 12, and the surveyor promised to send the valuation to Barclays 48 hours later. The bank finally sent its final redemption figure to you on the 25th, 26 working days from the date that Barclays says you officially asked for a final redemption figure, and 72 working days according to my calculation. It offered you £250 in compensation, which I thought low given the very poor service you have received. I asked the bank to waive the £350 cost of the valuation in addition to the £250, but it refused. As you have not – so far – suffered any financial loss as a result of the delay in providing a redemption figure, you are unlikely to be awarded a higher amount by the Financial Ombudsman and have accepted the meagre £250.

# Gone in 24 hours: cheap mortgage deals vanish fast

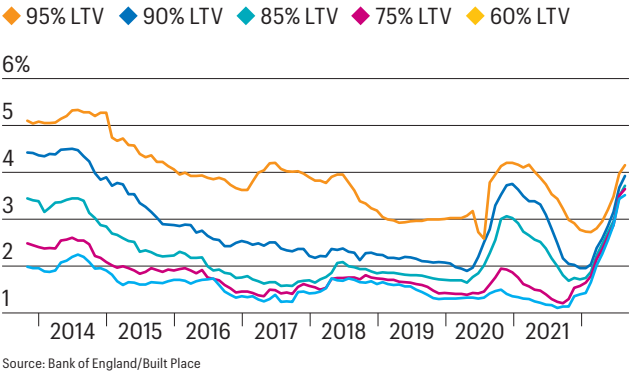
Loan rates are rocketing, so you need to think about what to do when your loan deal ends, says *Imogen Tew*

Homebuyers are scrambling to secure a cheap mortgage deal. Lenders are regularly increasing mortgage rates by as much as half a percentage point and pulling products from the market within 24 hours of launch. Even buyers with a hefty deposit or large equity stake in their home are struggling to bag a good deal. Mortgage providers are having to cope with a backlog of applications as buyers and owners try to secure a deal before interest rates and house prices rise further. The Bank of England has increased the base rate six times, from 0.1 per cent in December to 1.75 per cent today, and this has fed through to mortgage rates. A further rise of 0.75 percentage points is expected when the Bank's committee meets again this month. The average two-year fixed rate is now 4.24 per cent, up from 2.86 per cent six months ago, according to the data company Moneyfacts. You can usually lock in a new mortgage up to six months before your present deal expires. There were 329,510 remortgages approved between January and July 2022, up 36 per cent on the same period last year. This race for new deals is also fuelling the product rate rises. Many lenders have already hit their loan targets for the year and so have been quick to take deals off the market when they become overwhelmed by demand. Some have had to pause new applications because they cannot process them fast enough. To avoid this, many are putting up rates so that

**The average two-year fix has gone from 2.86% to 4.24%**

**3.57%**  
Best two-year fix, from Skipton BS

### AVERAGE MORTGAGE RATES



they do not compete with the best buys for a while. This week several lenders increased rates by up to 0.6 percentage points. NatWest's two-year fix at 60 per cent loan to value (LTV) has gone up to 4.29 per cent from 3.69 per cent. Nationwide also raised rates on its two-year fix at 60 per cent LTV, from 4.04 per cent to 4.44 per cent. Barclays increased rates across its mortgage range on Wednesday, but its deals were still among the cheapest on the market. By Thursday it had withdrawn six of its products, telling brokers that the move was to ensure it was in the "best position to offer a timely processing service". Aaron Strutt from the mortgage broker Trinity Financial said: "Some of these rate rises have been scary. Lenders do not want to be leading the best buy tables because they struggle to keep up with demand and rates are just continuing to go up." Rate rises have been even steeper for those with more equity in their property. Usually, those borrowing at 65 or 75 per cent LTV get a much better deal than those at 90 or 95 per cent, but the gap is narrowing. In August last year the average rate at 60 per cent LTV was 1.10 per cent, while at 95 per cent LTV it was 3.43 per cent – a gap of 2.33 percentage points. Last month, the average rates were 3.51 per cent and 4.15 per cent respectively – a gap of 0.64 percentage points. "The difference between low and high LTV rates is the narrowest I have ever seen," said Adrian

Anderson from the broker Anderson Harris. "The remortgage market has been exceptionally busy and banks are struggling to process the applications. On average, the LTV for a remortgage is lower than purchase, so banks have been trying to slow down the number of applications they receive in lower LTV brackets," Anderson said. He said that during some periods banks had pulled low LTV rates from the market for up to 48 hours. In August at least seven lenders, including Coventry Building Society, paused new applications altogether. Skipton Building Society is offering the best two-year and three-year mortgage deals, at 3.57 per cent and 3.62 per cent respectively, on 60 per cent LTV. Both deals come with a £995 fee but the two-year deal is due to be withdrawn tomorrow and the three-year price will increase. If you want to fix for longer, the best five-year deals come from HSBC and Lloyds, depending how much deposit you have. At 40 per cent LTV you can fix at 3.53 per cent with HSBC, which also has the best 90 per cent LTV rate at 3.88 per cent. Lloyds has the best deal at 75 per cent LTV, offering 3.65 per cent. Millions of fixed-rate deals are coming to an end over the next 15 months and homeowners could be in for a shock when they come to remortgage. Owners who took out large loans, spurred on by soaring house prices and historically low interest rates, will have to pay hundreds of pounds more every month. UK Finance, the banking trade body, said that households with a mortgage are set to see their "wobble room" – proportion of net income left after mortgage payments, basic household expenditure and credit commitments – drop from an average of just over 35 per cent to 25 per cent. If rates increase another 1 percentage point, this would fall to more like 20 per cent. About a third of those whose deals are coming to an end this year would be left with 10 per cent or less disposable income.

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# FAME AND FORTUNE RITCHIE NEVILLE

## ‘My accountant said I had two months before I ran out of money’

The Five singer went from boy band stardom and a Brit award to having to sell his house and car, then dabbled in the wine and restaurant trade before going back on tour, he tells *Nick McGrath*

Ritchie Neville Dobson answered an advertisement in *The Stage* placed by the Spice Girls creators, Bob and Chris Herbert, in 1997 and so became one fifth of the boy band Five. The group signed a six-album deal for Simon Cowell with BMG/RCA records, and went on to sell 2.8 million albums in the UK and 20 million records worldwide. They won best pop act at the 2000 Brit awards before splitting up in 2001. The first of several reunions followed in 2006 and the band released an album, *Time*, earlier this year. After a short spell as a restaurateur and sommelier in Sydney, Australia, in the late Noughties, Neville returned to the UK and started a relationship with the Atomic Kitten singer Natasha Hamilton. Now separated, single and living in Cheshire, Neville, 43, shares custody of their daughter, Ella, seven.

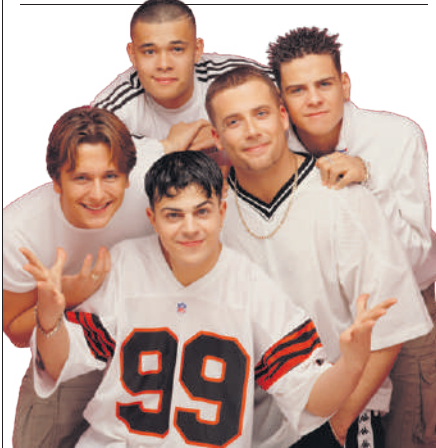
**How much is in your wallet?**  
I’m a big believer in cash. I don’t like the idea that digital transactions are being forced on everyone, so I do tend to always have about £100 in my wallet. I like that with actual money it’s easier to realise how much you’re spending. Digitally it’s just a number online and it’s easier to lose track. Having said that, I do tap my cards a lot too, but I feel like an analogue man in a digital world.

**What credit cards do you use?**  
I have had credit cards in the past and I’ve always paid them off automatically by direct debit every month. I don’t have one now, but I am about to get one again because I saw a TikTok video reminding me about keeping your credit score up by using a credit card every month and paying it off.

**Are you a saver or a spender?**  
I am a little bit of both. If I start to see my

bank account whittling down and there’s nothing coming in, as happened during the pandemic, I do feel a sense of anxiety. People think that when you have had a Top Ten single you’re a millionaire, but you’re not. I ran out of money quite quickly after the band. At the time I was pretty famous and broke, and that wasn’t a nice feeling. I’m in a better situation now but I don’t like to see my account dwindle down too much, especially when you’ve got mortgages, a kid and maybe work on your house or something that might cost 20 or 30 grand. I like to keep a little something to fall back on, whereas when I was first in the band I was way more fast and loose with money.

“  
**I was pretty famous and broke. It wasn’t a nice feeling**



**How much did you earn last year and what impact has the pandemic had?**  
We’re a live act so Covid decimated our earnings. We had to pull out of a tour we were on, hoping that the curve would flatten in three weeks – and two years later we were still not working. I was lucky enough to make it through the two years with what I had in my bank account, but others weren’t. I took out the government loan as a buffer, but even though life was giving me lemons, I used the whole episode to make the most of spending time with my young daughter.

**Have you ever been really hard up?**  
Definitely, and very quickly after Five broke up. We sold 20 million records worldwide, so people assume the royalty cheques kept on coming, but you’d be surprised at the actual figures. Obviously it’s split between five members, then you’ve got the production teams and the producers. It was a classic example of how record companies treat young artists. The management put us together with Simon Cowell and they were already a team. We were mostly 17 and didn’t have a clue and record labels know every trick in the book. You think you’ve won the lottery, and don’t get me wrong we had some brilliant experiences, but financially they take the lion’s share and by the time it’s finished it’s too late. It’s done.

When it ended I became flat broke very quickly, within 18 months. I’d bought this beautiful house in a gated development overlooking Hampstead Heath, with a huge mortgage, and spent 40 grand on a brand-new BMW, then suddenly the money stopped coming in. In the end I couldn’t pay the mortgage.

I remember sitting there and the problem was surrounding me. I was literally sitting in my problem, and it spiralled me into quite a depression. My accountant said, “You’ve got two months, then you won’t be able to

ALAMY



withdraw a penny from the ATM,” so I sold the house and the car just to stay afloat.

I felt like the biggest loser on the planet. I’d gone from opening the Brits and performing there with Queen to having nothing in two years and it nearly broke me. Without the care and help of my partner at the time I don’t think I would have survived.

**Do you own a property?**  
I own a six-bedroom house in Cheshire I bought six or seven years ago. It’s got a nice garden and it’s just myself and my daughter, Ella. I’ve also got a rental property, which I’ve had for 15 years. And the Hampstead property is long gone.

**Are you better off than your parents?**  
I’ve been more wealthy and less wealthy

**Ritchie Neville, above and far right with Five, carries about £100 cash in his wallet**

than my parents at different points. My mum and my stepdad ran a pub, and my dad was a professional singer on the cabaret circuit, and then eventually became a fish delivery man, delivering to restaurants in London.

**Do you invest in shares?**  
I actually did a home-study share-buying course in my spare time a few years ago when Five had re-formed and I learnt the Dow theory about dealing with stocks and shares and when to buy and sell them, and then one day when I was

sitting in front of the computer and I suddenly thought, “I know enough about this to know that this is just f\*\*\*ing boring. This just isn’t me.” I just didn’t want to sit in a room in front of a screen for hours doing that. I want to give myself to art.

**What’s better for retirement – property or pension?**  
I’ve not got a pension right now, but there’s still time to sort one out and I have actually started to think about old age properly only recently. I’ve already got a little bit in property so I might hedge my bets. I might make some investments in shares, I might do a little bit in property and a little bit in pensions.

**What’s been your best investment?**  
It’s cliché I know but the best thing I ever did was my daughter, hands down, and the time that I spent with her is what I value most. I have her 50 per cent of the time. The other 50 per cent is where I try to cram everything for me.

**And the worst?**  
I impulse-bought a laptop once years ago at the airport in New York. They talked me into getting it, but it didn’t have the capability of getting onto the internet, which was kind of the point of buying the thing. I remember telling the boys and they shredded me.

**What’s the most extravagant thing you’ve bought?**  
Spending £12,000 on a holiday to the Maldives, but I don’t regret a penny of it. It was an experience. It was unreal. I’ll always have that memory.

**What’s your money weakness?**  
Musical equipment for my home studio. I’ve got something called GAS – gear acquisition syndrome. I can’t help it. I love fiddling with knobs now, so if I see a synthesizer I find it hard to resist.

**What is your financial priority?**  
Just to stay afloat so that my daughter can live a nice life, have nice holidays, until she leaves home.

**What would you do if you won the lottery?**  
First thing, sorting my family out so they don’t ever have to work again so they can just concentrate on their passions – I’d still work. Then I’d book an awesome holiday for the whole family, an experience-of-a-lifetime kind of thing. Then I’d take stock and not go absolutely bananas, but there would probably be a bit of a GAS binge.

**Do you support any charities?**  
I support Calm (the Campaign Against Living Miserably), the men’s mental health charity. The number of men that commit suicide in the UK on a monthly basis is staggering. I also support Balls to Cancer, a charity that does a lot of work at Birmingham Children’s Hospital.

**What is the most important lesson you’ve learnt about money?**  
You can survive with it or without it. Money is not the be all and end all. Doing things for money’s sake isn’t the way to do it. A lot of people end up unhappy that way. Whatever you enjoy doing, whatever you’re passionate about, that’s where you should be headed. Follow your passion, because then you don’t work a day in your life.

*Five play Rialto Plaza in Coventry on Saturday as part of their UK tour. Their latest album, Time, is out now; facebook.com/Fiveofficial*

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2008%

Rise in the FT30 index of shares during the reign of Queen Elizabeth II

## HMRC backtracks on fines for trusts

David Byers

HM Revenue & Customs will no longer fine people £5,000 if they fail to comply with a new rule requiring family trusts to be registered – as long as it is not deliberate.

It is thought that up to a million people were at risk of being fined for missing the September 1 deadline to register with the Trust Registration Service.

With a few exceptions, all types of financial or charitable trusts have to be registered, regardless of whether they are liable for tax or not. Previously the requirement only applied to taxable trusts, but this was

changed in 2020. The new rules affected families with basic trust arrangements written into their wills – such as “bare trusts” set up to manage shares or property on behalf of minors.

HMRC introduced the new rules as part of a crackdown on suspected criminals or tax avoiders hiding assets in

overseas trusts but accountants warned that as many as a million people – mostly ordinary families – had still had not registered trusts by the end of June.

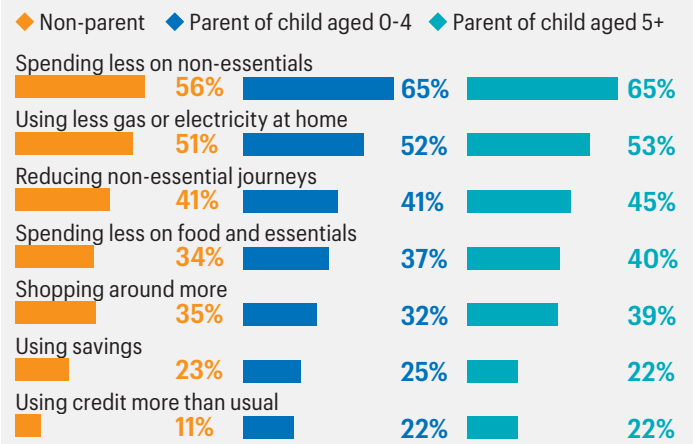
Now HMRC has said there will be no fine for a first offence, unless it is considered deliberate. Only after a warning letter will a £5,000 fine apply.

HMRC said: “In recognition of the fact that the registration requirement is new and unfamiliar, there will be no penalty for a first offence of failure to register or late registration of a trust unless it is shown to be due to deliberate behaviour on the part of the trustees.”

£5k

The fine that families could have faced

### CHART OF THE WEEK PARENTS FEEL THE PINCH



Parents are more likely to be feeling the effects of the cost of living crisis because they have less of a financial safety cushion than those without children. Office for National Statistics figures suggest that people without children spent 64 per cent of their disposable income before the crisis while those with children spent 69 per cent. Single parents spent 87 per cent.





THE SUNDAY TIMES

# CULTURE

September 11, 2022

## CONFESSIONS OF A MIDDLE-AGED **TEEN IDOL**

**ROBBIE WILLIAMS TALKS  
FAME, FAMILY — AND HIS  
NEW ADDICTIONS**

**MEGHAN'S PODCAST  
HOW MANY PEOPLE DOES  
IT TAKE TO MAKE IT?**

**BOOKS  
RICHARD OSMAN  
VERSUS OUR CRITIC**





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### Art report

Trainers or football shirt? The super-rich are finding new ways to spend their millions

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### Theatre

In his first interview since taking the helm at the Royal Opera House, Lloyd Dorfman reveals his mission

21

### Classical

Meet the pianist who has recorded Mozart's complete piano sonatas on the composer's own instrument

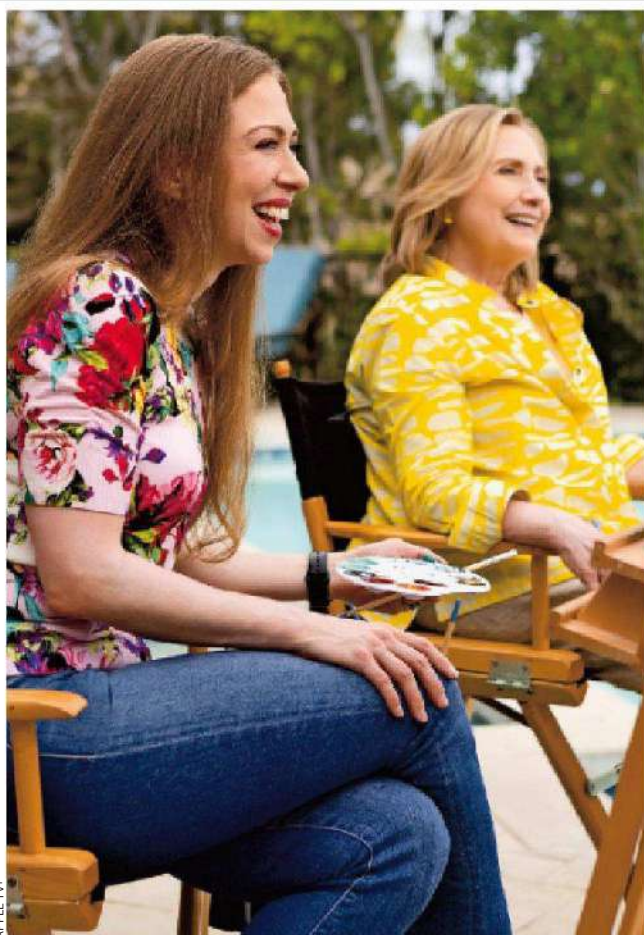
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### TV & Radio

The best guide to the week's programmes

**Cover** Robbie Williams.  
Photograph by Leo Baron/  
Farrell Music Ltd



'What do politicians do after politics? Hillary Clinton's method is to go on and on preaching' **Camilla Long, page 14**

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### Lead review

James McConnachie takes a fascinating look at nightmares and other sleep disorders

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### China

A damning study of modern Chinese history by one of its most trenchant observers

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### Crime fiction

Richard Osman, *below*, is a publishing phenomenon, but does he deserve to be?

36

### Fiction

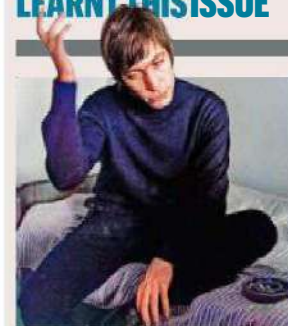
Hail Kate Atkinson, a master of plot and characterisation

30

### The Sunday Times Bestsellers



## THINGS WE'VE LEARNT THIS ISSUE



● Charlie Watts, above, had some eccentric hobbies. The Rolling Stones drummer sketched every hotel bed he slept in on tour. And he collected classic cars and would just sit in them — because he never learnt to drive.  
**Books, p32**

● Records surviving from Vindolanda on Hadrian's Wall reveal that of the 296 soldiers stationed there, 15 were sick, six were wounded and ten had "sore eyes". One of the biggest problems in the ancient world, as in much of the developing world today, was conjunctivitis.  
**Books, p35**

### Twitter

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# 'NO ONE WHO'S FAMOUS

As he nears 50, Robbie Williams talks candidly about the price of celebrity, being a globe-trotting dad and why a Take That reunion will happen — if the boys don't hate his biopic

DAN CAIRNS  
INTERVIEW



**R**eclining on a huge bed in Ibiza, plumped-up pillows behind him, tattoos and copious chest hair on full display, Robbie Williams is a picture of wealth and health. The 48-year-old pop veteran and father of four is on holiday with his family, dancing on the beach, soaking up the vibes, busy being Robbie.

He has long lived by a different clock. Our conversation takes place deep into the evening, yet Williams never gives the impression that sleep is on the agenda any time soon. In the old pre-rehab days, subsisting on a diet of cigarettes, booze, prescription pills, amphetamines, weed, Ecstasy, heroin and cocaine ("colossal, heart-stopping amounts"), he went without sleep as a matter of course.

The singer will turn 50 in 17 months, and by then we'll know whether his career as a middle-aged entertainer will ever match his Noughties pomp when he was filling stadiums and topping the charts. Although he is still a huge live draw, his record sales have declined since hits such as *Angels*, *Feel*, *Rock DJ* and *Let Me Entertain You* made him one of the world's biggest stars. The plans to reverse this are serious.

His new album, *XXV*, is a belated celebration of 25 years as a solo artist, following his acrimonious departure from Take That. It features orchestrated re-recordings of some of his biggest hits alongside a handful of new tracks. A huge tour of British arenas begins next month.

His schedule is even busier in 2023. *Better Man*, a biopic being filmed by Michael Gracey, who directed *The Greatest Showman*, is due for release. As, too, is a Netflix documentary series produced by the team behind the Amy Winehouse film *Amy* and *Bros: After the Screaming Stops*.



All that plus a new studio album, for which, Williams says, he has "more than 100 songs".

Never a dull moment, then. And yet, enviable though it looks from a distance, his life sounds exhausting. He describes his family as "a moving caravan that is constantly in a state of flux, has no base and doesn't know where it's supposed to go".

"I used to get flustered and panic about it, but it's just how we live. Having four kids [Teddy, nine, Charlton, eight, Coco, four, and Beau, two] makes things complicated when their daddy does work everywhere else but their base, which is California."

As for the work, Williams sounds far more sanguine than he was. When he toured with Take That in 2011 after the release of their full-band reunion album *Progress*, his solo slots, midway through the shows, were hair-raising affairs, his eyes manic, profanities spilling from his mouth. Marriage — to the American actress Ayda Field, 43 — and fatherhood appear to have given him perspective. He talks about his career now with a candour that seems almost quaint given how ruthlessly policed many superstar interviews are.

"I love my job, but if it wasn't a job, I don't think I'd like it as much. It was just this amorphous blob before, which I was responding to in ways that were unhealthy. Now it's just a job and I can take delight in knowing that I'm incredibly f\*\*\*ing lucky to have it."

Fame rarely provides the answers those seeking it expect to find, he declares. That was certainly a mistake Williams himself made. "But everybody does. Everybody is intoxicated with the thought of what fame is, even though the examples all around you are of people falling down, getting tripped up, becoming mentally ill, being deeply unhappy, resentful, agoraphobic, desperate, behaving in ways they normally wouldn't."

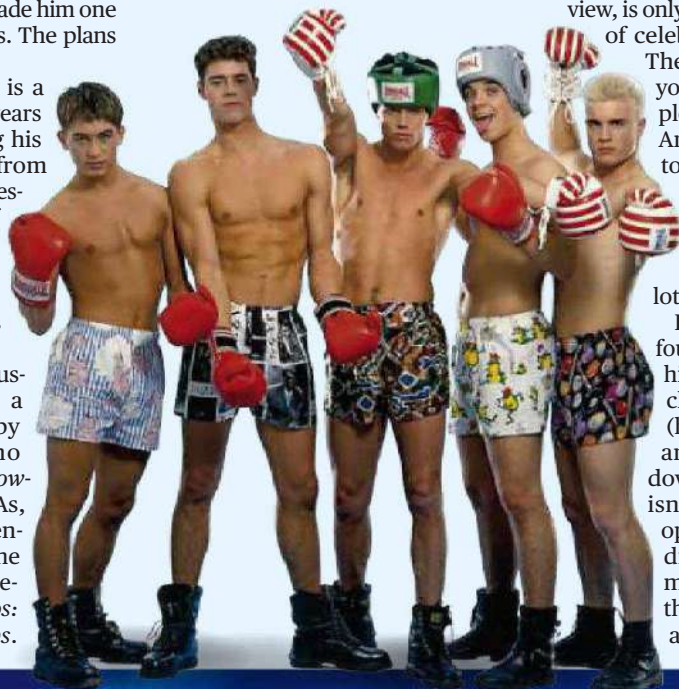
He doesn't buy the idea that stars resolve this conundrum. Fame, in his view, is only ever toxic. "That's the truth of celebrity, that's what 'that' is.

There are no opposite cases you can point to besides completely inauthentic stars from America who have managed to hide behind publicists; no examples where you can go, 'There's a well-rounded person that's thoroughly enjoying his lot.' He doesn't exist."

For all that, Williams has found a way of coexisting with his fame. He is working on a clothing line called Hopeium (his second such venture), and spends hours jotting down ideas for it — when he isn't working up plans for opening a hotel, launching a drinks brand or getting a mooted television show off the ground. His wife is "great at allowing me to be con-



BRIAN J. RITCHIE/SHUTTERSTOCK; INSET: EROTEME.CO.UK; DAVE HOGAN/GETTY IMAGES



sumed by whatever I'm addicted to at the time, as long as it isn't mood-altering substances. It's the lesser of two evils if I'm still awake at half five in the morning with some Biers and some Sharpies, giggling at myself from something I've just written."

Williams has found humour in the life fame has given him. His choice of America — a country he has never conquered and where few people know him — as his primary base is significant. He sees his life as having two distinct sides and seems finally to have worked out how to balance them.

"The guy that watches *Real Housewives of Beverly Hills* in bed with his wife cannot get up on stage and do an hour forty-five and be the same person. My career would end. I'm an entertainer, and I try my best to entertain.



# IS WELL-ROUNDED'



I'm not there on stage to be entertained, I'm there to entertain."

So there's method to the madness of the travelling circus. Referring to that dual existence, he says, laughing: "Wherever I go, I turn up. If we're constantly moving I have less time to turn up and bother me."

Before we chat, Williams's publicist sends me a list of no-no questions. Jimmy Page, Russia/Ukraine and the royal family are verboten. The first stipulation, concerning the neighbourly nimbyism that has caused Williams and the Led Zeppelin guitarist to enter dispute about proposed alterations to the singer's palatial home in Holland Park in London, is off limits for legal reasons. Fair enough.

The second relates to the many highly lucrative private parties Wil-

**Showman** Performing Can't Stop Christmas in 2020. Above left: with his son Charlton. Left: with Take That in 1991 filming Do What You Like

liams has performed at over the years for Russian oligarchs, some now sanctioned by the British government.

The last is the real hot potato. Williams and Field are friends with Sarah, Duchess of York – their elder daughter was even a bridesmaid at Princess Eugenie's wedding. He and his wife have

“

I want my kids' kids' kids' future to be taken care of

reportedly hosted her family at their Wiltshire mansion and have visited Royal Lodge, the Windsor house the duchess still shares with a certain prince. The mind duly boggles.

Plectrums at dawn, shilling for the post-Soviet super-rich, hanging out with Vanarama League royals: in these, and so many other respects, Williams has come a long way from Stoke-on-Trent, although he remains deeply loyal to his home town. The motivation behind his plans for 2023/4 is about far more than just fan affirmation and reclaiming the charts: money matters.

"The whole lineage of my family, they've all been navvies or worked down the pits. I'm sure in the Dark Ages they shovelled shit. I find myself elevated economically, so I want to procure something for my family that's generational, and I have the ability to do that. I want my kids' kids' kids' future to be taken care of."

It's scary to consider how young Williams was when the band split up. The announcement was made on his 22nd birthday (he had quit seven months earlier). "That's too young to have had a life," he says. "The fact that it was on my birthday didn't pass me by. I remember I'd been to Harrods and bought a shitload of Scalextric."

Williams says he's sure there'll be a second Take That reunion. Much will depend on the reaction of his former and possibly future band-mates to *Better Man*. Williams describes filming it – he plays himself and the actor Jonno Davies is his younger incarnation – as "super odd". "To be sat in make-up and the lady that's playing your grandma is sitting next to you, and the people playing your mum and dad, and then there's Howard Donald's wig and Jason Orange's prosthetic chin."

"How [the band] receive it will have a lot to do with what happens next. If this film was my life from 2010 to 2022, it would be a love letter to Gary Barlow. But I speak in the film how I thought when I was 16, 17, 18. We have a very complicated relationship, me and the boys. A loving and jovial relationship, but I will always be the youngest, the runt of the litter.

"What I don't want to do is open up old wounds, but I also don't want to restrict myself from a truth that was mine, of its time. I mean, listen, Dan, I can't be the only c\*\*\* in the film. If I rewrite everybody to be lovely, then I'm the only arsehole, and I can't be having that." 🍌

*XXV is out now; the tour begins in London on Oct 9*

## ROBBIE AND TAKE THAT RANKED

### 8 Robbie Williams: *Feel* (2002)

At the height of his success, Williams came out with one of his most candid songs, the mix of confessional lyrics and housey propulsion building to a shattering *cri de coeur* of a chorus.

### 7 Robbie Williams: *She's the One* (1999)

Williams transformed the World Party single into a lighters-aloft epic, his vocals switching seamlessly between vulnerability and grandeur.

### 6 Take That: *Patience* (2006)

The song that launched the band's comeback as a quartet, this is Gary Barlow at his most masterly. It leapt to No 1, as did their album *Beautiful World* – a degree of success that took them by surprise.

### 5 Robbie Williams: *Come Undone* (2003)

One of Williams's most riveting and tormented songs, this is the sound of a man in crisis, yearning for peace, but mired in misery. Desperation and self-disgust are scored into every groove.

### 4 Take That: *Pray* (1993)

Marking the moment when it dawned on us that there might be more to Barlow than vacuous ballads and slick but soulless dance-pop, *Pray* glories in a verse George Michael would have been proud of before exploding into a giant, massed-vocals chorus.

### 3 Robbie Williams: *Angels* (1997)

Plenty of people would be happy to never hear *Angels* again. Yet it remains one of the most powerful singles in pop history, its communicative directness plugging you straight into the emotional mains.

### 2 Robbie Williams: *Strong* (1999)

Williams and Guy Chambers's greatest song marries cry-for-help lyrics with a lovely, Beatles-y chorus that wraps its arms around you and refuses to let go.

### 1 Take That: *Back for Good* (1995)

The bizarre (and unfounded) rumour that Barry Gibb wrote it aside, this is a masterpiece. A song any writer would kill for, it sounds almost effortless, but the lyrics attest to the meticulousness of Barlow's craftsmanship.



**E**ver since his 1980s breakthrough as the brash face of stand-up railing against “Thatch”, Ben Elton has been showbiz Marmite.

He may have kick-started alternative comedy, then written a stream of bestselling novels and award-winning plays, but there’s still something about him that rankles.

“Ben is constantly judged by almost everyone in a way I’ve never seen happen to anyone else,” says David Mitchell, who plays Will Shakespeare in Elton’s BBC sitcom and play (soon to be returning to the West End), *Upstart Crow*. “His reviews seem to contain an entire list of things the reviewer didn’t like in the past before admitting that this is actually quite good.”

That’s certainly the case with *Upstart Crow*. It opened to five-star reviews through gritted teeth and won an Olivier nomination before shutting down within weeks as theatres went dark in the pandemic.

This is historical irony. Bouts of the plague during Shakespeare’s life led to theatres closing repeatedly. *King Lear*, *Antony and Cleopatra* and *Macbeth* were all written under quarantine.

“I hadn’t made the link at first,” Elton admits. “We closed the day after we got the Olivier nomination. I love an awards ceremony. Good fun, get pissed and maybe you win. I don’t know if we can say ‘first-world problem’ any more, but me not going to the Oliviers is one.”

The play takes place with King James on the throne and Shakespeare needing to reinvigorate his career. “He’s reaching the end of a relatively shit period,” Elton says at his trademark pace over Zoom from his Perth home where he’s lived for 30 years with his Australian wife, Sophie, and three children. “Nobody’s desperate to see *The Merry Wives of Windsor* or *Two Gentlemen of Verona*. Suddenly out of the blue there’s *Othello*, *King Lear*, *The Tempest* and *Winter’s Tale*. Astonishing.”

In his play Elton tackles the hot potatoes of cultural appropriation and gender fluidity in *Twelfth Night* and *Othello*. It plunged him right into the heart of the transgender debate and a crucial decision about blackface.

“I trust myself to write on the side of the angels because I don’t punch down,” he says carefully. “I think self-censorship is the best censorship, but I’m very well aware of how confusing all these issues are, and they confuse me, don’t get me wrong.”

He slows down the rapid-fire chat and comes across as a little uncertain – which feels out of character. “I’ve never known a time of greater change in our attitudes to the very basics of what it is to be human,” he says thoughtfully. “But people like myself – late middle-aged, always been a radical, always thought I understood everything about what I think is wrong in the world – are suddenly having to really think hard.



## ‘I RESPECT MRS THATCHER. SHE HAD PRINCIPLES’

Ben Elton always used to know exactly what was wrong with the world – so what does he think about the culture wars and Liz Truss?

Interview by *Stephen Armstrong*

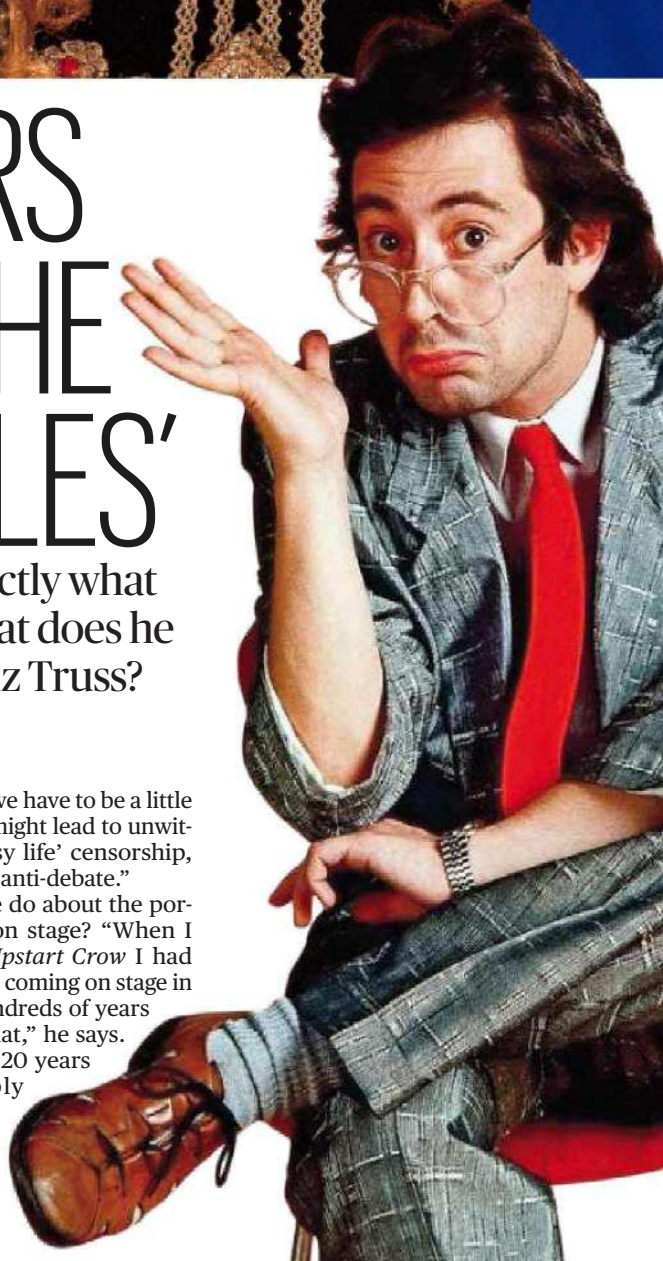
“We did a *Crow* episode five years ago with an intersex character. We’d need to look carefully before doing that now. Everybody is walking on eggshells and in many ways that’s a good and

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I’ve never known a time of greater change in our attitudes to the basics of what it is to be human

healthy thing. But we have to be a little careful because it might lead to unwitting ‘I want an easy life’ censorship, which would be an anti-debate.”

So what does he do about the portrayal of *Othello* on stage? “When I originally wrote *Upstart Crow* I had envisaged the actor coming on stage in blackface – for hundreds of years white actors did that,” he says. “If I’d written this 20 years ago I probably would’ve thought that I was showing racism in its raw







PA, COLIN HUTTON/BBC, JOHN SIBLEY/REUTERS, BEN ELTON/IMAGE-ALAMY

**Power women** Margaret Thatcher; Emma Thompson as Queen Elizabeth in the BBC's *Upstart Crow*; and Liz Truss. Left: Ben Elton in the 1980s

“  
Destroying  
the BBC  
has been a  
long-term  
right-wing  
Tory project

form. I don't take that view any more.” His solution? He now keeps the blacked-up actor off stage.

We speak in the days before Liz Truss takes up the reins as prime minister and I note that, just as Shakespeare's finest early work was under a powerful female leader, Elton's fortunes almost seemed tied to Margaret Thatcher.

With a new female prime minister, is it cometh the hour, cometh the motormouth?

He pauses. “Truss follows Johnson, and the legacy of Johnson is of selfishness,” he begins. “If you're prepared to be completely amoral and not play by any rules, it's very hard for a functioning democracy, which relies on a certain amount of civilised agreement.”

He can't resist a quick aside. “The thing I resent most about Johnson is that people used to go – at least he's funny,” he spits. “He's not funny. I know about jokes, and he's never cracked a decent one in his life. He does what all bullying comics do, which is to get easy laughs at other people's expense.”

Then he unexpectedly reveals that he misses the woman he called “Thatch”. “She was a politician of deep personal principles – every single one of which I personally loathed.” He gives a wry smile. “But I did respect that she was prepared for unpopularity. I hated what she did, but I respect her character. The problem with Truss is she seems to be motivated exclusively by ambition. She doesn't seem to have consistent principles and that's a reflection of what's happening to politics.”

His politics, he insists, have not changed. “I believe Clement Attlee's government was the greatest peacetime administration any democracy has ever had.”

Just in time, he's returning next month in a one-off *Friday Night Live*, the cabaret that first brought alternative comedy into our living rooms. “We want to celebrate 40 years of Channel 4 when it's under a unique level of attack,” he explains, before launching into a defence of the BBC, also under threat. “There has been a long-term right-wing Tory project, destroying the BBC. It's so strange, isn't it? In a world where everything is constantly changing at the behest of a few geeky tech geniuses, surely the BBC is something Conservatives would be interested in? Many of their voters are.”

He looks weary. “Look, I don't think all politicians are crap. The minute everybody says that too many times we're going to end up with fascism,” he says with a sigh. “We have to believe in democracy.”

“*Friday Night Live* is just a cabaret show. What was political [in the original show] was there were no racist comedians or sexist comedians. Even I wasn't that political. I could do two hours about my knob, mention Mrs Thatcher at the end and suddenly I'm a political comedian. But live comedy on TV is potentially radical – that's the point. So we could start leading by example one live gig at a time.”

And it's all I can do not to say, “My name's Ben Elton, goodnight.”

*Upstart Crow* is at the Apollo Theatre, London W1 from Sep 23. *Friday Night Live* will be on Channel 4 in late October

## MY CULTURAL FIRSTS FELICITY KENDAL

### The actress tells *Rob McGibbon* about her Indian childhood on stage and discovering television

#### First stage play I saw

My family's production of **A Midsummer Night's Dream** – but I was nine months old, so does that count? I was the Changeling Boy to my mother's Titania and my view was from a basket. My childhood was spent watching Shakespeare plays from the wings or performing in them all over India.

#### First film I saw at the cinema

This will date me. The original Walt Disney **Peter Pan** from 1953 when I was about seven. My aunt Mary took me to see it in Bangalore. I loved Captain Hook and his wicked smile and Tiger Lily, but I thought Tinker Bell was a pain in the arse. One of my very few regrets in life is that I turned down the Peter role in a great production at the Coliseum in 1976 because I was having problems in my love life. Damn. Whoever that boyfriend was, he wasn't worth it.

#### First actor I admired

**Paul Scofield** playing Timon in *Timon of Athens* at Stratford-upon-Avon in 1965 when I was 19. I went on my own and sat up in the gods. Paul was mesmerising. He was physically beautiful and I remember him striding the stage like a panther, his voice filling the theatre. He had such charisma that he commanded concentration from the audience. I went again the following week, even though I had so little money.

#### First TV show I never missed

I was never that interested in television when I was young because I saw it as second class compared to theatre or films. Plus, there weren't many televisions on tour in India. Back in England, I first lived with my mother's family in Solihull and they watched TV every evening after supper. It was me and my three cousins, my aunt and uncle, all crammed into a tiny front room.

**The Avengers** and **The Man from U.N.C.L.E.** were firm favourites – but if there was anything remotely sexual my uncle felt so uncomfortable that he'd get up and go to his study.

#### First sitcom that made me laugh

**Dad's Army** was unmissable. All the cast were fantastic, the scripts were to die for, and the comic timing was blissful. They made it all look so effortless. My favourite was John Le Mesurier as Wilson. I called him

Eeyore because he was always the gloomy one.

#### First book I loved

A thrilling biography about Mary Queen of Scots, simply called **The Queen of Scots** by Stefan Zweig. I remember reading it in my early teens on a voyage from Bombay to Singapore. Our theatre company always travelled in the cheapest cabins and I could not wait to crawl on to my top bunk, open the book and disappear to the 1500s.

#### First album I bought

We only had a very basic portable gramophone in India and we had very little money, but when I was about 14 my sister Jennifer gave me an LP of **Albinoni's Adagio for Strings in G minor**. I listened to it endlessly and I still love it. It is haunting and beautiful and it takes me straight back to those years. Jennifer died of cancer in 1984 when she was only 50, which was awful. She was the star of our family and that piece of music always reminds me of her, so it is particularly moving.

#### First famous person I met

**Nehru** [the Indian prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru] when I was about six. He came to our production of *The Merchant of Venice* in Delhi. He always invited my dad to lunch whenever we were in Delhi. I also met the Maharani of Jaipur – Gayatri Devi – when I was 12. She invited our company to tea. She wafted into the room on a cloud of glorious jasmine perfume. To this day, she is still the most beautiful person I have ever seen. I didn't know at the time that she was famous, but I was stage struck.

Felicity Kendal is in the 40th anniversary production of *Noises Off*, opening at Theatre Royal Bath on Sep 22, then touring until Oct 29



MARK THOMAS/SHUTTERSTOCK





Timeless Andy Warhol's Marilyn Monroe, a Patek Philippe and Kanye's Nike Air Yeezy trainers

# DO I HEAR \$2M FOR KAN

Forget the cost of living crisis. The global super-rich are so flush that the big auction

JOHN ARLIDGE



Inflation is soaring. Europe is at war. Energy bills are breaking records. Stock markets have slumped. Reasons enough, you might think, for belt-tightening. Not if you are Charles Stewart, the global chief executive of Sotheby's auction house. He has the opposite problem: he can't gather in the money fast enough.

The art market is "so crazy" that Stewart admits that he wakes up some days "thinking the world has gone truly bonkers". In May this year Christie's sold Andy Warhol's 1964 painting *Shot Sage Blue Marilyn* for \$195 million (£158 million), the highest auction price yet for a 20th-century work.

Earlier Sotheby's broke its old master record, selling Botticelli's *Man of Sorrows* for \$92.2 million before going on to stage the second part of the most valuable single owner auction to date: works from the Macklowe Collection, including art by Mark Rothko, Cy Twombly and Jackson Pollock, fetched \$922 million. Sotheby's total sales hit a record \$7.9 billion last year and, at \$4.3 billion in the first half of this year, could nudge \$9 billion by December.

So much money is flooding into the marketplace that Stewart is struggling to come up with new things for buyers to start collecting. Or, as he prefers to put it: "We're innovating to get to the cutting edge of contemporary collecting." Recent sales have included sneakers, handbags, space junk, football shirts and even dinosaur fossils.

A pair of Nike Air Yeezy shoes worn by Kanye West at the 2008 Grammy awards fetched \$1.8 million last year. The shoes are so valuable they are transported in an armoured truck (and will, of course, never be worn again).

Two hundred pairs of limited edition, Virgil Abloh-designed Nike sneakers sold for more than \$100,000 each last year, with a size 5 pair fetching \$352,800, more than 20 times the \$15,000 estimate. "We had 250,000 people view them online," Stewart says. Why would anyone want to collect trainers? "Because they've become an art form, an emblem of popular culture that captures how we live now. Also, collectors can go deep into the category, as you can with more traditional collectibles," he says.

The shoes would look good next to Diego Maradona's Hand of God football jersey. In May Sotheby's sold the shirt that the Argentinian star wore when he scored his infamous goal against England in the 1986 World Cup.

It fetched £7,142,500, making it the most valuable item of sports memorabilia sold at auction.

Space is the new final frontier for Sotheby's. Buzz Aldrin's flight jacket, worn during the Apollo 11 mission, when he walked on the moon, sold in July for almost \$2.8 million, becoming the most valuable American space artefact snapped up at auction.

Sotheby's is also expanding into the car market – after fine art, classic cars

are its biggest grossing sales category, worth \$550 million last year. In February it bought a majority stake in its car auction partner, RM Sotheby's. Three months later RM Sotheby's sold a 1955 Mercedes-Benz 300 SLR Uhlenhaut coupé for \$135 million to a private collector. It is the most valuable car yet sold and the second most valuable item Sotheby's has auctioned.

The expansion is a remarkable reversal of fortune for a man whose timing at first seemed impeccably bad. Stewart first walked into his office on the tenth storey of the auction house's headquarters on Manhattan's Upper East Side just a few months before lockdown. Sales at the 278-year-old firm had slumped to \$5.5 billion in 2020. What's behind the transformation? Despite the recent financial turmoil, there are still 2,700 billionaires in the world, worth a collective \$12.7 trillion, according to Forbes. "That wealth is flowing more easily thanks to travel and technology," Stewart says. "People travel more, see more for themselves, and can also see and buy online."

Technology is key. When lock-

**“**  
We had someone bid \$70m for a Francis Bacon on an app

**Going once, going twice**  
Sotheby's global chief executive Charles Stewart







# YE WEST'S TRAINERS?

houses are finding ingenious new ways of parting them from their cash

down hit, Sotheby's was forced to go digital at warp speed, a task that came easily to Stewart, who has spent most of his life working in telecoms and banking, including seven years in London. "Twenty years ago we were limited to who you could fit in the sales room – 400 people. Now we livestream sales and we're averaging over a million views of lots," he says.

App-based bidding is now popular, and not just for smaller lots. "We had someone bidding \$70 million on the app for a Francis Bacon triptych in June 2020." (The bidder didn't get it, even at that price). More than 200,000 bids have been placed online so far this year, 92 per cent of the overall total.

Lockdown also forced Sotheby's to go where its customers are. It worked so well that it has recently opened new sales rooms in Brussels, Cologne and Los Angeles, supported by pop-ups in Monaco, the Hamptons, Palm Beach and Aspen. Some are more like shops than sale rooms. You can walk in and walk out with a new collectible on the spot. "I'm a shopkeeper," Stewart says. "Bring your platinum credit card."

Sotheby's has even installed a shop in the lobby of its headquarters in New York and will do the same in its British head office in New Bond Street. Pop in to the New York office today and you

can pick up an Hermès Himalaya Kelly bag for \$175,000 or, if that's a bit pricey, a pair of Virgil Abloh Louis Vuitton x Nike Air Force 1 trainers for \$15,000.

The stock market turmoil has, oddly, helped Sotheby's, persuading some wealthy types to start collecting. "At a time when investments might suddenly go down, the appeal of owning a rare object of any kind has enhanced appeal. There is comfort in the permanence of an object," Stewart explains.

Watch sales "are exploding". In December a Patek Philippe "Pink on Pink" Reference 1518 sold for almost \$9.6 million. Some buyers are betting that the value of their new old "things" will rise. "They see it as a hedge against inflation, against currency movements," he explains.

Some younger collectors like the idea of buying second-hand – everything Sotheby's sells is on the secondary market – because it enables them to indulge, but also claim to be at least a bit green. "People don't want things to be disposable. The idea that I can buy

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Recent sales included handbags, space junk, football shirts and fossils

something that has more value because I'm going to resell it in three, four or five years is powerful," Stewart says.

The young rich are also interested in new kinds of collectibles, notably digital assets such as non-fungible tokens (NFTs) – one-off virtual assets whose ownership is recorded on the blockchain, a certifiable digital global ledger. Sotheby's has built a salesroom in the metaverse to gin up sales. It recently sold an NFT of Tim Berners-Lee's source code for the worldwide web for \$5.4 million.

However, NFT sales are not going as well as Stewart had hoped. The market has lately "repriced", he says. Tanked, more like. Values of digital assets have fallen by as much as 80 per cent in the past six months. Does this signal the beginning of the end – or the end of the beginning? "Definitely the end of the beginning. We're seeing a split emerging between NFTs that are art for art's sake and NFTs created as collectibles. There's much greater discernment."

He pulls out his iPhone to show me an NFT sale he worked on with Barcelona football club. "Two days ago in New York we sold the first of ten NFTs that represent iconic moments in the club's history," he says. The first was a digital animated representation of the celebrated Johan Cruyff flying "Phantom goal" from 1973. It went for

\$700,000. However, it was more than an image. "When you buy it, you become a digital ambassador of the club and you have rights to rare experiences at Camp Nou and can hand over the ball at matches."

Dreaming up new digital things to collect also helps to avoid the tricky issues around the provenance and ethics of collecting ancient artefacts.

Tech will change the art world and auction houses more broadly – and for the better, Stewart insists. "Art has historically been perceived as something of an exclusive club, but technology, whether it is live streaming sales or collecting digital art, will democratise it. It will become less opaque, less scary. Barriers will come down and more people will feel, 'I want to get involved.'"

Fizzy though it may be already, Stewart thinks the great auction house boom is only just getting started. As wealth globalises even more, so will the art scene, creating big new markets. He has his eye on the Gulf.

"We're seeing some of the biggest cultural agendas in the world coming from the Middle East. It's becoming the new crossroads of global culture."

With the present rise in the oil price, Sotheby's sales may reach \$10 billion next year. 📈

*Survival of the Richest, Books, p34*



# PEAKY BLINDERS GO TO THE BALLET

By order of the creator Steven Knight, his much loved gangster TV drama is being turned into dance

SUSANNAH BUTTER



A young blonde woman wearing thigh-high boots strides out on to the stage, holding a pistol. She fires three shots before darting off in pursuit of a man called Tommy Shelby.

The last time Shelby was at large was in the finale of *Peaky Blinders*, the brutal interwar Birmingham gangster drama that ran for six series, ending in April. Yet the Peaky phenomenon lives on – it has become a franchise with international appeal. Its creator, Steven Knight, is writing a film, there's an “immersive experience” show in London and now the characters are back in a ballet, *The Redemption of Tommy Shelby*.

“Tommy can dance,” Knight says in a break between rehearsals. “And he wouldn't care about anyone's opinion.” Still, it is rare for television shows, especially violent ones set in the 1920s, to be turned into ballet.

Benoit Swan Pouffer, the artistic director of Rambert who has choreographed and directs the ballet, explains: “I didn't just want to interpret the TV show because right away that would disappoint.” Instead the company has taken *Peaky* as a starting point to tell another story: a prequel that begins with the Shelby brothers' return from fighting in the First World War and dovetails into a love story between Shelby and the woman with the gun, Grace.

Beautiful dancing is juxtaposed with whisky-fuelled aggression, fight scenes and chain smoking. Knight asked Cillian Murphy, who plays Tommy Shelby in the television series, if he could dance. Murphy said no, but he and the cast are going to come to see it.

The idea for the ballet came from a 12-minute dance piece Pouffer created for the first *Peaky Blinders* festival, in

2019. “Dance was never my thing at all,” Knight says, “but I had this revelation when I saw the piece.” He included a *Swan Lake* scene in series five because he wanted to carry on working with Pouffer.

At Rambert, Pouffer is on a mission to attract new audiences. “*Peaky Blinders* is a brand, so that might attract ticket buyers who have never seen dance before. Once you have them in the seat they can fall in love with the medium.”

It will look spectacular – the room we speak in is lined with mood boards for the costumes and a mannequin wears Grace's green velvet dress.

Knight always knew he wanted to set the ballet in the First World War and have a love story. “On screen you are looking at one scene, but with dance you can choose where to look on the stage. That's amazing, but you have to keep the story simple – a love story is direct.” There is narration from the poet Benjamin Zephaniah, who played a preacher in the TV show. The second half becomes more abstract, Pouffer says. “We go inside Tommy's head to understand why he acts this way.”

Knight adds: “What I've always strived to do in *Peaky* is show if there's an act of violence there is a consequence. You

**Peak performance** Rambert shows a lithe side to Tommy Shelby

don't dust yourself off and it's fine. Here, you are telling a story about people who have experienced the death of a thousand people in ten seconds in Flanders, watched people get blown to pieces by order of the government, and then come back to a place where that wasn't allowed.”

The inspiration for *Peaky* was the stories Knight's parents told him about their life in Small Heath in Birmingham. “My grandad came back from the war with a bullet in his back that never came out because it was too dangerous to remove. I remember him cutting my hair – giving me a *Peaky* cut – with the bullet [lodged] in. He never spoke about it; I learnt about it from my mother. I thought I would tell the story like a child remembering.”

Pouffer, who grew up in Paris, says his grandfather went to fight in Germany, but was arrested as soon as he arrived. “He spent four years in prison and he had habits from that time – as a kid I remember him always keeping the last bit of the bread and chocolate. I thought it was normal, but it was trauma from when he was starved in prison.”

The women in the show “ran the world” while the men were at war, Pouffer says. “I wanted to show the women characters are as strong as the men.” Knight's grandmother, he says, “was terrifying” and Aunt Polly, played by Helen McCrory, was based on his grandmother's “fierce” sister.

Downstairs the live band is rehearsing and the dancers are warming up. Pouffer sums up his and Knight's intention: “We have dived into something people know well and [we] are telling people something new about it.”

*Rambert's Peaky Blinders: The Redemption of Tommy Shelby is at the Birmingham Hippodrome from Sep 27, Wembley Park Theatre from Oct 12, then touring; peakyblindersondance.com*

## BRYAN APPEYARD INTERVIEW



Everybody has problems – energy prices, inflation – but the Royal Opera House has more than most. So, wisely, it has made Lloyd Dorfman, 70, chairman of the board of trustees.

“I come to it with my eyes open, under no illusions,” the entrepreneur tells me, having taken the job two months ago. “This is not a time for the faint-hearted.”

The ROH's costs, like everybody else's, are soaring, but it also faces the problem of “end-of-life infrastructure”. The big, cream Covent Garden palace was built in 1858 and needs £120 million over the next ten years to keep it working. More immediately, the Arts Council is committed to shifting 15 per cent of funding from London to the regions, another “levelling up” wheeze from the fast-receding Johnson years.

“We don't know how that's going to be applied. So we're sort of braced – we've got this funding Exocet missile heading our way; we don't know quite what it will mean.”

Yet he is buoyant. “Let me start with the very good news – the artistic companies are on fire. They coped magnificently, as did the executive team, to get this organisation through the pandemic. Audiences have come back. We've not quite seen the top-end tourist element, which has slightly depressed our box-office take. So in terms of the overall yield it's about 10 per cent off.”

That last sentence is ominous; 10 per cent may not sound much in an age of terrifyingly large numbers, but the ROH's business model depends on selling 95 per cent of its 2,400 tickets every night just to break even.

The truth is that the ROH faces multiple crises, none of which is obviously soluble. Under the circumstances, “Get Dorfman” was a pretty good call. Apart from anything else, he has presence. The round, smiling face, the eloquence and the shining bald pate make it clear that this is not only the smartest, but also the nicest guy in the room.

He also has money – £700 million-plus, thanks primarily to his creation and, latterly, sale of Travelx, once the world's largest non-bank foreign exchange operator.

Best of all, he has form when it comes to the arts. He has funded and/or helped to run the National Theatre (where he pioneered the Travelx £10 ticket scheme that brought in thousands of young people), the Roundhouse, Bafta, the Royal Academy and so on. Outside the arts he has backed the







BRYAN APPELYARD

“But I’m an entrepreneur by background and I always think big changes create big opportunities.”

After that £700 million fortune, the second thing profiles tend to say about Dorfman is that he didn’t go to university. This was a choice, not a failing, because in the 1970s you could train for the bar without going to university. Yet within a year at Lincoln’s Inn he had met his wife-to-be and was tempted by her father into the City. He has been married to Sarah ever since. They have three children and five grandchildren. She is a ballet freak and a long-time supporter and a trustee of the Royal Ballet, one of the ROH’s three companies alongside the opera and the orchestra.

Dorfman is a Jew; his family came to Britain from Ukraine and Poland before the First World War. His Jewishness – although he is not particularly observant – is crucial to his support of the arts. “It’s all part of the communal DNA: to look after your own, but also to play a role in the wider community.” This belief led directly to his most startling act of giving – he, along with several other Jewish donors, supported the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Galleries, the first building project at Westminster Abbey for 275 years. “A church!” Sarah exclaimed. “Think of it as a museum,” Lloyd replied.

Then, most extraordinarily, he became involved with St Paul’s. Yet that word “involved” is too weak. He tells a long story, emotionally and apologetically. First, he takes out his phone and shows me a picture of himself speaking from the spectacular pulpit. “That five-minute speech took me four days to write. I didn’t want to mess it up.”

He knew that one function of the cathedral was to be a site of remembrance. In the midst of Covid, he helped to develop an online memorial site for people who could not get to the church. Then he backed the building of the inner portico, which had been destroyed by a German bomb.

His speech was about that rebuilt portico, now known as Remember Me, and his audience was full of the bereaved of all faiths and none. He announced that he was a Jew, then gave them the Jewish blessing, used at funerals and shivas: “I wish you a long life.” He reads me a letter from a Jewish Covid widow thanking him: “Your inclusivity made a real difference... [St Paul’s] just felt like a place where mourning people were together.”

He tells the story passionately, movingly and at length. Dorfman is what Jews would call a mensch – a man of honour and integrity – and there aren’t many of those in public life just now. I suspect, in the midst of all its woes, the big cream palace just got lucky. 🍀



# ‘AN EXOCET IS HEADING OUR WAY’

Lloyd Dorfman tells *Bryan Appleyard* about his Royal Opera House mission in his first interview since taking the helm

Prince’s Trust and built a new building for Great Ormond Street Hospital – it saved the life of his grandson after he was diagnosed with a brain tumour aged nine. “He’s just turned 16, he’s fine now... Out of bad comes good and, hopefully, we’ll have helped some other families who have to use GOSH.”

However, the arts are his defining obsession. Why? “I acted at school – I’ve always been drawn to it. We happen to be particularly good at it in this country. It’s a fundamental part of our soft power and our influence around the world. The arts are part of our national soul. Those of us who think it’s important and can help should help.”

The ROH is the supreme expression of British arts. Dorfman points out that only the BBC employs more “creatives”. Yet its problem has been that it’s still only a very elite London theatre. Dorfman enthusiastically points out that the ROH does everything it can to spread the word – cinema performances, educational work and more. “We ran something like 83 teaching programmes for

about 2,000 teachers across 900 schools. We’ve got this magical relationship with Doncaster and the Cast Theatre there and we’re about to do a couple of gala nights. We’re looking at our new digital platform as a way to take the world-class art and work that we do here and share it around the country.”

This is one response to that 15 per cent cut – look, he is saying, the ROH is already in the regions. And in any case, torturing London’s arts will not necessarily improve the regions. “I can see the political appeal of instructing the Arts Council to transfer 15 per cent of its funding outside of London, but I’m not sure that it achieves what the politicians think it might achieve. The notion that this will somehow level up the arts world around the rest of the country – I think that’s fallacious.”

As he well knows, the case has to be supported by what goes on at the big cream palace. The ROH is one of only five truly great opera houses – with the Met, La Scala, Paris and Vienna – and it has to stay there. Cuts could mean a

**Braced and ready** Lloyd Dorfman. Below: Francesca Hayward in the Royal Ballet’s production of *Like Water for Chocolate* in June

“slippery downward spiral” at the end of which it would have to make do with lesser artists and performers. “That would be commercial suicide and it would be cultural vandalism, national cultural vandalism, to take a landmark world-class artistic British institution and turn it into an also-ran.

“It would be cultural vandalism to turn the ROH into an also-ran



# The American Michelangelo

There's no English word to describe the quality that Winslow Homer shares with the Renaissance genius — but the Italians call it *terribilità*

WALDEMAR JANUSZCZAK



Winslow Homer and Michelangelo are two artists I never imagined I would pair in the same sentence, but a compelling show that has opened at the National Gallery has forced my hand. On the surface, they have zero in common. One was a universally acclaimed genius of the Renaissance, the other a 19th-century boat painter of whom few have heard outside his native US. But beneath the surface, where it counts in art, they shared a vital quality.

There is no English word for it. So I will have to use the Italian: *terribilità*. It means something like: “inducing terror”. Michelangelo's contemporaries recognised it when they looked up at the Sistine ceiling and saw an angry God staring down at them. What have we done? Why us? Homer, who produced no obvious religious art, found it in nature, and especially in the huge, swelling, tumultuous seas of the North Atlantic. *Terribilità* makes you feel small, vulnerable, guilty. Any artist who has it in their quiver has a powerful arrow to let fly.

Like a surprising number of notable American artists, Homer (1836-1910) started out as a commercial illustrator, working in Boston for popular magazines such as *Harper's Weekly*. He had a talent for storytelling; knew how to trigger interest and keep you guessing. The National Gallery tribute doesn't go into any of this — his beginnings don't feature — but the first



**Lonely sea** *The Fog Warning* by Winslow Homer, 1885

paintings we see, produced after *Harper's* sent him south to cover the American Civil War, make it quickly obvious.

*The Veteran in a New Field*, from 1865, is a back view of a ragged farmer swinging a scythe at a looming cliff of yellow corn. “That's a whole heap of scything you got in front of you, son.” Then you notice the Confederate jacket he has thrown off to do the work. And the painting jumps into life as a symbolic mystery. “Son, what kind of scything are we talking about here...?”

For we Limeys who know so little about Homer's art because there's so little of it to be seen here (no significant painting in any national collection), the sense of lurking symbolism that lifts these narratives on to a higher plane feels new. Our Victorian art was just as keen to find moments of drama in everyday life, but it did so more fussily and with none of the biblical cadences that Homer brings to the task.

*The Fog Warning*, from 1885, the first of his famous sea paintings in the show, is *Moby-Dick* in a gold frame. A lonely rower caught on a choppy sea as the fog falls — his boat lifted to a perilous vertical by the waves — stares across at the sails of a far-away schooner gliding along the horizon. It's safe. He isn't. And my, what a lot of ocean there is between them.

The biggest issue of the American Civil War, slavery, keeps popping up as a concern in Homer's postwar art, but his determination to keep the meanings open makes his position hard to read. *A Visit From the Old Mistress*, of 1876, shows three “freed” female slaves crowded into a dark hut, being visited by the starched widow in a black dress who used to own them.

They live in squalor. She obviously does not. They have children dangling from them.

She has an ornate fan. Two worlds are colliding and a note of *terribilità* is being struck. But it's the collision of opposites that interests the painter, not the apportioning

of blame. The captions tie themselves into tangles trying to project modern thinking on to the subject, but the painting remains stubbornly ambiguous.

Telling it like it is by not telling it like it is is a strategy only the better artists dare to employ. This involving show, which has obviously set out to enlarge Homer's transatlantic reputation, gives us a painter who is more progressive than we might have suspected. It isn't just the tricky conceptualism that lifts his scenes of everyday American life above the Victorian norm. There's an unpredictability also to his interests, a difference to the things he notices.

A girl on a beach wrings out her hair on the sand after an ocean swim while her dog barks at her. A boy climbs up a sand dune and puts his hand into a burrow dug by sand martins while the birds buzz around him in panic. The textures feel different because they are American: everyday scenes of a different everyday.

It's obvious, too, that he has been looking at progressive French art — at Géricault, at Courbet, maybe even at Manet.

Where our own Victorian art dismissed these French influences as the Devil's work, the fresh and open-minded American welcomed them. You see it in the clearness of Homer's colours: the emerald green of his seas, the golden yellow of his corn.

But the *terribilità*, when it starts to stir in his work, has nothing French about it. Homer travelled enthusiastically, to Barbados, Cuba, France, England. He made art wherever he went. But one of his feet seemed always to be anchored in the crease of the Bible Belt.

The great suite of sea paintings in which the show culminates keep setting the tiny figure of man against the mighty power of nature. In huge, thrillingly wild seas, tiny boats bob and sway, as the precariousness of human existence is measured against the vastness of the ocean.

We're watching the birth of an unmistakably independent American art. The biblical tone it keeps striking is what makes it so distinctive. **C**

*Winslow Homer: Force of Nature*, at the National Gallery, London WC2, until Jan 8

THE CRITICS



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# She's not the Messiah, she's a very weird lady

Hillary Clinton's series about women is more like the manifesto of an extremely rich church than television

**CAMILLA LONG**



**Gutsy** Apple TV+

**The Boys from Brazil: Rise of the Bolsonaros** BBC2, Mon

**Arena: James Joyce's Ulysses** BBC4, Wed

What do politicians do after politics? I thought the path was clear: celebrity fat club, a book or two, appearances, speeches, holidays, letters to *The Times*, then death.

Hillary Clinton's approach is, of course, more ambitious. In fact, it is fundamentally messianic. Her method is to go on and on preaching, as if her political career had never ended, as if she will never die. If that means she does some weird, aimless lady road trip with her daughter, so be it.

**Gutsy**, a new eight-part Apple TV+ series about women, feels less like a television series and more like the manifesto of an extremely rich church. It is comically hushed and awkward in tone. It wants to be cool and interesting and funny to attract worshippers, so there are trips to Paris, where Hillary inexplicably performs "exercises at clown school", and interviews with Kim Kardashian. But like Hillary herself, the subject matter is hard and do-gooding and not funny at all: each episode is given over to one mirthless

aspect of how the American system lets down women. How do you make that good telly?

The answer, in their minds, is to get Hillary to gussy herself up like some glossy deity – perhaps the goddess of coastal grandmothers – and drop in for brunch. Every scene is the same: Hillary is hardly ever seen driving, or flying, so it is as if by magic that she manifests, with her daughter, Chelsea, to speak to some A-list celebrity or rape victim or queer pastor in some random corner of America.

They then talk about how we can make a better world while some meek poor person, preferably just out of prison, completes a fulfilling, worthy task of supernatural boringness in the background. "The only love you keep is the love you give away" is a typical example of something someone might say.

After an inconclusive angels-on-the-head-of-a-pin discussion that can range, confusingly, from "how laughter can change the lives of women" to the story of how one woman was shot ten times at point blank range, the women will take part in the sacrament. This is usually some kind of chard-y thing or, on the rare occasion they are talking to reformed rednecks, possibly beer. It's quite strange to watch all these women telling Hillary how awful America/the world is while taking tea, or making

**Girl talk** Chelsea and Hillary Clinton with Kim Kardashian and Amy Schumer, back, in *Gutsy*

“Like Clinton herself, the subject matter is hard and do-gooding, not funny at all

light jokes, or indulging in some other tinkling, ephemeral Edith Wharton-style pastime, without any hint that Hillary was, once, the very person who could have done something about it.

Who is this show for? People who just love Hillary? Or perhaps it is meant to be more of a cultural insight into contemporary America. But it's weird. If you were an alien you might be forgiven for thinking that the entire globe was composed of very rich Martha Stewart lookalikes talking to poor, disadvantaged black mothers about how dreadful their lives are at things they call "hate brunches".

Occasionally you can sense the Apple execs stepping in and reminding Hillary that they didn't pay for folksy aphorisms or sub-religious

affirmations or voyages into one's authenticity or an audience with a "cultural bearer and elder" of the Yurok tribe, but personal revelation.

This will prompt a record-scratch moment in which Hillary or Chelsea, who is frankly far too gentle and polite for television, will discuss what it is like to be called ugly, or be trolled, or to be upskirted, as Hillary was in Rio when she was first lady (it's why she wears pantsuits). Or, as happens in episode four, what it is like being married to one of the world's most prolific shaggers.

This scene, among the show's most heavily trailed, is a masterclass in cake-having and eating. It is clear, for example, that Hillary is still furious and ashamed of Bill's mistakes, but only because they threatened their political ambitions. Not that she wants to divulge this to the lesbian





# Meghan needs help

How many people does it take to make a vacuous royal podcast?

PATRICIA NICOL

Meghan, Duchess of Sussex's new podcast **Archetypes** is, so far, argumentatively flimsy, glossily vacuous and showily self-serving. None of that feels surprising. What is shocking is how many people have worked towards creating something so noisily inconsequential.

The credits list 13 producers: nine executive producers (one of whom is Meghan), two producers, one senior producer and one associate producer. Several of these have assistants. Two people are even thanked for "booking", although the pretence is that Meghan is zooming pals. Altogether I counted 29 people. There is only one "executive editor", which feels a clunking mistake; for all this "talent", the show is overproduced yet uneven.

In December 2020 Spotify signed a multi-year exclusive audio deal with the Sussexes widely reported to be worth at least £18 million – some reports say £25 million. For 18 months all this produced was a half-hour Christmas special featuring chums such as James Corden and Tyler Perry.

Then in January came the announcement about Meghan hosting **Archetypes**, to be co-produced by Gimlet (incidentally, another questionably exorbitant Spotify purchase – the streaming giant paid \$230 million in 2019 for the maker of successes such as *Homecoming*, *Reply All* and *Heavyweight*, although Gimlet's hit-rate seems to have stuttered).

In her introduction Meghan sets out her stall. "This is *Archetypes*, my podcast about the labels and tropes that try to hold women back; boxes like diva, crazy, the b-word, slut. Of course, I know a thing or two about those labels myself. My hope is that my own lived experience will help

other women open up."

But Meghan's own "lived experience" (TV star, princess, media combatant, professional victim, extravagantly overpaid content provider) is so extraordinary, who actually can empathise with it?

Her guests, meanwhile, are stars in their own fields. So far, Serena Williams, the greatest female tennis player of the professional era (23 grand slam victories to Steffi Graf's 22); Mariah Carey, one of the most successful recording artists, and the actress, writer and producer Mindy Kaling, creator of the hit US show *The Mindy Project*. On to these women Meghan ascribes her archetypes – the Williams episode is titled *The Misconceptions of Ambition*, the Carey one *The Duality of Diva*, and the most recent one, with Kaling, *The Stigma of the Singleton*.

Yet who is stigmatising the likeable Kaling for being a successful woman who in her late thirties made the pragmatic decision to start a family alone, except, perhaps this podcast? Kaling is quick to acknowledge that she is no downtrodden single parent: she has financial security and a close support network. Also, that she never wanted to settle for just anyone: "My life is filled with women in their late thirties, early forties, who are so successful yet have partners who aren't. I'm often amazed."

Carey is aware that

**Atypical**  
Meghan, Duchess of Sussex



ROBIN UTRECHT/SHUTTERSTOCK

at least half of her diva persona is "for laughs"; the other half seems to be rose-gold armour-plating against the volatility she experienced in childhood.

Meghan dominates all these conversations. Her interview style is less to ask questions than to state what she has already decided to elicit from her case studies. She does not enjoy pushback. When Meghan claims that "the diva thing is not something I connect to", a laughing Carey rebukes her: "You give us diva moments sometimes, Meghan."

This sends Meghan into a touchy tailspin. After the interview, she returns with an addendum analysis. "What nonsense must she have clicked on to make her say that?" She then decides Carey was just being complimentary about the "chic, aspirational" way Meghan dresses. Hmmm. But wasn't reclaiming the term "diva" in a positive light part of the point of this episode? The target audience seems American, which is a relief.

A podcast offering more real-world examples of the pressures facing women is the BBC World Service's **Dear Daughter**, the overall winner at the British podcast awards in July. Its Kenyan presenter, Namulanta Kombo, is a working mother from Nairobi who won an international competition to pitch a podcast series. Her idea was to assemble a manual for life for her infant from letter-writers round the world. She was inspired by notes elicited from friends and family. There are missives encouraging daughters not to rush into marriage or to people-please, to respect their heritage, but also spread their wings.

Also, a moving letter from a Filipino mother explaining her difficult decision to work abroad, and a brave discussion of mother-daughter conflict. I hope "Dear Son" might follow. ■

chaplain (a woman who greets her flock with "queerly beloved") who's been selected to interview her. So she simply says she stayed because she "had to make a decision that I felt was right for me". Of course, the pastor desperately nods: it is fine

to do whatever you want to do. In fact, it's fine for anyone to do whatever they want at any time, in any situation, so long as you are the right sort of person. This is the show's warped central philosophy. It is even fine, for example, for Bill not to have been honest about his lovers. "There are circumstances where telling is crueller than not telling," Hillary says. If Bill hadn't been famous, she would never have found out about the women, not because Bill is a liar, but because "he was so embarrassed and really ashamed about it", she says. Hmmm.

I think at some point there was an opportunity for Hillary to have said something profound about human frailty and forgiveness, but that is the sort of religious language she will not tolerate. Instead she just wants to go on campaigning, and if that involves some television set-up that seems faintly beyond her, then that is what she will do.

*Gutsy* is probably best watched alongside the BBC's new series **The Boys from Brazil**, on Brazil's president Jair Bolsonaro. To say Bolsonaro is Hillary Clinton's worst nightmare is to seriously understate the level of macho offensiveness this toasted carrot-like monobrow seems to achieve.

There is footage of Bolsonaro, a former army captain who was elected in 2018, calling a fellow MP who looks not unlike Susan Sarandon "a whore". When she protests, he shoves her and tells her he wouldn't bother raping her because "you don't deserve it". It caused outrage in Brazil at the time, but it didn't

stop Bolsonaro. The next scene shows him giving an interview to one of the country's top female journalists – "the most intelligent blonde in Brazil" – in which, far from showing contrition, he giggles and flirts with her and they then exchange numbers. It is, quite simply, mad.

I didn't know much about the Bolsonaros – on top of Bolsonaro himself there are four identical sons – but let's just say it is the most Brazilian thing I have ever seen. It is filled with cartoons of sexy secretaries mincing into his wolfish eyeline to the sound of bossa nova, while Bolsonaro is shown telling people how much he hates homosexuals on chat shows or shouting that an army minister is "a dick" ("*um banana*").

If there is any great political theory the makers want to put forward, it is not immediately obvious. But it reveals a great truth about television: that anyone with a personality can now make it in politics. Bolsonaro could say almost anything he wanted on TV because he is so ludicrous his words have the force only of comedy. "He was funny, he was a joke, until he wasn't," someone says.

On BBC2 there was a big documentary about **James Joyce's Ulysses**: it is 100 years old. Salman Rushdie told us that he first read the book at university and found it "off-putting". Not for the obvious reasons – its extreme length and density – but "because I thought, well, I can't do that, plus he's done everything, so what else is there to do?"

I don't often get the point of shows about books – why not just read the actual book instead of watching famous writers wading through hyperbole ("he invents the modern novel", "he made everything possible for the writers who came after". Really?). But this was a finely made, authoritative and lively documentary that plunged into the book's filthier themes. It was funny to watch the etiolated literary personages say things like: "He's describing the arc of urine which is exiting from their respective penises." Who knows, I might even read it now. ■

THE CRITICS



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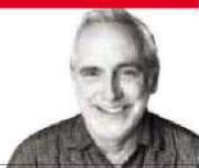
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SCAN ME



TOM SHONE



**Pinocchio**  
Disney+  
Robert Zemeckis, PG, 105min  
★★★

**Crimes of the Future**  
David Cronenberg, 18, 108min  
★

"Pinocchio lacked an intangible something," Walt Disney said after his second feature film premiered in New York in 1940 and took roughly \$2 million, on a budget of \$1.7 million. "The matinees were terrific at reduced children's prices, but my God, you could shoot a cannon up the aisle at night," the animator Ben Sharpsteen said. Admittedly, *Gone with the Wind* had just been released a few months before, and a few months before that Germany had invaded Poland. Box office must sometimes take a hit for the preservation of the western world.

By comparison, the new live-action version of **Pinocchio**, directed by Robert Zemeckis and starring Tom Hanks, will make its debut on Disney+ and bypass cinemas altogether. The cartoon about the puppet who dreamt he was a boy has become a live-action remake that once dreamt it was a movie.

Questions of authenticity abound in the new version, which follows the Disney original to an almost spooky degree. Living alone but for his cat Figaro and goldfish Cleo, Geppetto (Hanks) fashions a puppet boy to replace his dead son, and after a visit from the Blue Fairy (Cynthia Erivo), his dream is made real.

"Hello, Pops!" announces the boy, with all the bright pep of the 1940s original, wearing that familiar red-feathered Tyrolean hat. "Jeepers, he's alive," Jiminy Cricket (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) exclaims, before pointing out that Geppetto wished for a real boy, not an animated puppet. "Of course, I'm a talking cricket so I'm



# Perils of Pinocchio

Disney's live-action remake of a classic is a wooden facsimile

not one to pass judgment on what is real." Well, quite.

In many ways, this is the question that bedevils these live-action remakes that Disney seems determined to foist on us – *The Lion King*, *Aladdin*, *Dumbo*, *Cruella* and now *Pinocchio* – namely: how real is real and do we really want it?

Pinocchio's face now has visible wood grain, a lovely effect, yet one that jars with the elasticity of the expressions he pulls. On the question of whether to update or leave well enough alone, the script, by Chris Weitz and Zemeckis, is fabulously undecided. Pinocchio still sleeps in a drawer by Geppetto's bedside and tumbles from frame to frame like a puppy, but when accosted on the way to school by Honest John (Keegan-Michael Key), he is tempted less by the footlights than by fame. "Anybody who is anybody wants to be... somebody," John says.

"But I want to be real," Pinocchio protests – a line that could single-handedly bring down the entire Kardashian empire. Zemeckis's touchstones are tucked away

everywhere, like Easter eggs. Once on stage, Pinocchio gets a new playmate, Fabiana (Kyanne Lamaya), whose dance in calipers recalls the similar dexterity of Forrest Gump. Some business with mallets recalls the fun Zemeckis had with Looney Tunes in *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*, and needless to say the director of *Back to the Future* simply adores Geppetto's workshop, with its dozens and dozens of clocks, which glance to the darkness

**Against the grain** Disney's modern retelling of Pinocchio

of Carlo Collodi's original 1883 tale with their cuckoo-clock dioramas of drunks downing beer, children being spanked, and people going into coffins.

The book comes to us from a more dangerous time for children: seven of Collodi's siblings didn't make it to adulthood. With its ghastly physical transformations – elongated noses, children who turn into donkeys – the

original *Pinocchio* issued a stark warning to Florentine children: be good or your outsides will betray your moral turpitude.

It's hard to see what Zemeckis's remake adds to the original. Hanks roughens his voice to give us a nicely gruff Geppetto, while Erivo delivers a piercingly lovely rendition of *When You Wish Upon a Star* – the film's highlight by a long mile – but otherwise, a sense of purposeless proficiency, such as you might find over a convention of unicyclists, hangs over all. A lot of time, money and talent went into the making of an immaculate facsimile. Even Pinocchio knew that was not enough.

There are two types of David Cronenberg movie: the ones with exploding heads and the ones with talking heads. The former – *Scanners*, *The Fly*, *A History of Violence*, *Eastern Promises* – are tense horror-thrillers, born of obsession in which people are betrayed by their own bodies, which give you nightmares for a week. The latter are high-concept chamber pieces in which characters sit around and expound on Cronenbergian themes, which give you a case of sympathetic jaw-ache.

It doesn't take too long to determine which category his new movie, **Crimes of the Future**, falls into. In a future where pain has been eliminated and surgery has become the new art form, the avant-garde performance artist Saul (Viggo Mortensen) has a medical condition that means his body produces abnormal organs, which his assistant, Caprice (Léa Seydoux), removes with remote-controlled blades during their nightly shows.

This future doesn't take hold for a single second, so committed are the characters to explaining its peculiarities – they seem to have been briefed on it just seconds before the camera rolled – and there's not much plot on offer once the expository jabber stops.

For all its talk of artistry and daring, the film feels curiously timid and pedantic, its most shocking sight that of a film-maker nodding in vigorous agreement with himself.

## ALSO RELEASED

### Both Sides of the Blade

In cinemas and on Curzon Home Cinema  
15, 116min ★★★

Juliette Binoche's character can't choose between two men who are in love with her: her long-term boyfriend (Vincent Lindon) and an old flame (Grégoire Colin). In some ways the film is just another portrait of a couple – Binoche and Lindon – arguing bitterly. Yet Binoche gives a stellar performance, and the director Claire Denis has a gift for conveying the tingle of high emotions.

### Bodies Bodies Bodies

In cinemas  
15, 94min ★★★

Halina Reijn's satire features a bunch of rich friends who gather for a party and find there might be a killer among them. It isn't funny enough; its spoil brats are often too tedious. Yet the actors (most notably Amandla Stenberg and the wolfish Pete Davidson) have the right energy, and a number of scenes crackle unpredictably.

Edward Porter

★★★★★ KO ★★★★★ A-OK  
★★★ OK ★★ So-so ★ No-no

THE CRITICS



# 'RISING DAMP? I DID IT FOR THE MO

The 1970s sitcom star Frances de la Tour was a revolutionary who accidentally went mainstream. She's still ripping up the rule book, says *Stephen Armstrong*

**W**atching Frances de la Tour sing *La vie en rose* in an episode of *Professor T*, you have to pinch yourself to remember it's Ben Miller's eponymous OCD detective who is dreaming, not you. She belts out the lines in a nightclub fantasy sequence on the ITV show with an elegance and fury that's positively disconcerting. The scene was written for her; at 78 she's still stealing scenes and shows.

De la Tour has been guilty of this from her early days in the RSC – where, in Peter Brook's 1970 white-box production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, her Helena rugby-tackled Ben Kingsley's Demetrius – to her glamorous arrival at Hogwarts as Madame Olympe Maxime. She towered over Hagrid and he promptly fell in love.

She has won three Olivier awards and a Tony, been hailed as a gay icon in New York when *The History Boys* stormed Broadway and narrowly missed out on *Doctor Who* to Sylvester McCoy.

Then, of course, there was *Rising Damp*, as the prim Miss Jones, opposite Leonard Rossiter's seedy Rigsby. She sighs when I bring this up. "It's going to be on my tombstone," she says, and briefly looks sad. "I only really did it for the money. I was a revolutionary and committed to theatre."

In the Seventies de la Tour attended Workers Revolutionary Party branch meetings and demonstrations with Vanessa Redgrave, Clive Dunn, Spike Milligan and Miriam Margolyes. She was inspired by the waves of protest that swept Europe in 1968 and sees the new generation radicalised by movements

such as Black Lives Matter as inheriting their mantle.

"We had the huge March on Washington with Martin Luther King; that was my thing," she explains. "That was killed at its core by the assassinations of black leaders and we had to wait 50 years for it to return and advance, hopefully, further than we could take it."

In its way, *Professor T* continues her revolutionary streak. You can take the girl out of the Seventies, but you can't take the Seventies out of the girl. By taking the original Belgian part of the good prof's battle-axe mother, Adelaide, and infusing her with humanity, she turned the role into such a success that her part in the show has been expanded for season two.

"It was meant to be an eccentric mother-and-son part with a dog called



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NEY



## Scene stealer

Frances de la Tour in Professor T. Below: in *Rising Damp* and *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*



SHUTTERSTOCK



ALAMY

“I don’t really get Harry Potter. It’s the adults that are so keen on it. Why?”

Kafka, but then Frances came in and the role just mushroomed around her,” the show’s executive producer, Walter Iuzzolino, explains. “She brought such gravitas, emotional resonance, nostalgia and depth – even in the first meeting we were discussing the part and Frances started singing *La vie en rose* and we thought, ‘We have to include that.’”

When I say this to de la Tour she smiles, wrinkling her nose. “When you get to my age and you see the strong, eccentric, mouthy mother on the page, the first thing you think is, ‘How do I make this not a caricature?’ I focused on failure.” She looks over with a twinkle and gives a brief guffaw. “She’s failed miserably as a mother. I’m a mum and I know where I failed, and I can’t bear it. It’s always a train crash.”

De la Tour’s nightclub French is convincing thanks to her father, Charles, a film producer, who was obsessed with the idea that their name had aristocratic French roots. He sent Frances and her brothers, Simon and Andy, to the Lycée Français in London. “It’s bad enough just trying to grow up when you’re five years old without having to do it in another language,” she says with a sigh as we sit in the evening sun outside her trailer. It’s a little chilly, but she wants a crafty cigarette. “It worked for Simon, who became a French racing driver.”

Conversation with de la Tour is filled with little asides like this – Simon dated Jean Shrimpton and they all went to see the Rolling Stones “in some godforsaken venue in Slough, or somewhere like that, and we all thought they were quite groovy”. Then there is Redgrave, “who I obviously met through the revolutionary movement”. Or going out for lunch with Tennessee Williams “when I was pregnant with my daughter and he told me that growing up gay meant he had to break tender bonds to survive”. She also lugged around a dog in Martin Scorsese’s *Hugo* with the director “constantly smearing sausage meat on my gloves to keep the dog happy”.

Conversation turns to Harry Potter and I start on how certain cast members have criticised JK Rowling’s stance on gender politics. De la Tour raises her hand sternly. “I don’t want to be disparaging because it’s still giving me kudos. I have a little Lego model!” She hoots with laughter. “I don’t really get Harry Potter. I mean, I get the enthusiasm from a child’s point of view, but it’s the adults that are so keen on it. Why?”

It was a great set of films for British actors, I point out. “A lot of actors do complain they weren’t on Harry Potter,” she says, leaning forward confidentially. “They were most affronted, which I can understand. But when British actors get together, you know, we all say the same thing.” Which is what? “Which is, ‘Why aren’t we in *Downton*?’” and she bursts out laughing again. ☐

Professor T returns to ITV on Friday at 9pm

# Divide and leave

Pain and joy in tales of partition and a gender-fluid Joan of Arc

## QUENTIN LETTS



### Silence

Donmar Warehouse, London WC2\*

★★

### I, Joan

Shakespeare’s Globe, London SE1

★★

Two trips to the education camp of state-subsidised theatre. At the Donmar, they offer penitential anguish about Indian partition, while the Globe has a play about Joan of Arc being non-binary. I caught their final previews.

**Silence**, at the Donmar, is a series of testimonies about the violence that followed Britain’s withdrawal from India in 1947. The Attlee government hurriedly imposed borders to create Pakistan, East Bengal and India. Civil strife ensued and communities were divided along religious lines. This show adapts a Kavita Puri book, *Partition Voices*. As a record of ethnic cleansing, it has raw historical value, but as stage drama in this Abdul Shayek production it lacks urgency. Nor does it break ground for London theatregoers. We have had other plays about partition recently.

This 75th-anniversary piece is framed as a British-Asian journalist’s quest for first-hand accounts of partition. “We never talk about the legacy of empire,” she claims. Hang on, some political campaigners talk of little else. The stage is washed by ochre lighting and there are occasional

### Split state

Renu Brindle and Sujaya Dasgupta in *Silence*

street noises and twangs of sitar strings. Hanging panels are used for projected images. A character chalks a rudimentary railway track on the floor.

The performances are patchy and indistinct, the best coming from Bhasker Patel and Renu Brindle. We hear from elderly souls who kept quiet about the Hindu/Muslim violence they saw. The British are condemned for this, although Attlee and his foreign secretary Ernie Bevin receive a free pass. The blame is directed at Mountbatten, the last of the viceroys.

The stories include one about a little girl moving her ponytail to one side so that her father can decapitate her before she is raped by a marauding gang. Horrible. But as delivered here in a monotone, it carries oddly little force. During a different scene between the journalist and her ageing father, she tells the audience how “taken aback” she is by his touchiness about partition. Shayek should remember the adage “show not tell”. Let the acting, not the written page, describe human sentiments.

The opening of **I, Joan** was preceded by a media kerfuffle about how outraged some were that Joan of Arc should be depicted as non-binary. Was this more than a Twitter storm fuelled by cynical publicity agents?

## THE CRITICS

Charlie Josephine has rewritten the tale of the 15th-century French saint so that the Maid of Orleans is now less binary. Not a bad, if provocative idea.

Isobel Thom in the title role, in a debut performance, has stage presence, but needs to speak more loudly.

The open-air Globe’s back wall has been altered so that it resembles a skateboarder’s ramp and the actors have fun whooshing down this on their bottoms. The production is modern dress and sometimes not even much of that. Jolyon Coy, playing the French king, spends a lot of time in nothing more than a pair of Lacoste underpants, shouting the f-word. If the weather chills much before the end of this show’s run in late October, they may become frrr-words.

In an epilogue Joan breezily discloses “I’m f\*\*\*\*ing frightened” while offering the reassurance “queerness is pure magic”. Battle scenes are stylised into dances that look like Zumba sessions for home counties mums. The band knocks out a percussive score by whacking a drainpipe, tubular bells and wooden blocks. Throw in some Mexican-sounding trumpet and street-protest whistles. Someone turns up with a loud-hailer. Various characters wear boilersuits. God is mentioned, but it is “not a churchy God”, but the “omigod, oh yes God” of, I think, sexual climax.

Here is a Joan who stoically endures arrow wounds yet takes umbrage – right, that’s it, I’m off to burn at the stake – because courtiers will not use her preferred pronouns. Pull the other one. ☐

\**Silence* is at the Donmar until Sep 17, then at Tara Theatre, London SW18, until Oct 1

For tickets, visit [thetimes.co.uk/tickets](http://thetimes.co.uk/tickets)

11 September 2022 19



MANUEL HARLAN



# ROLL IN THE AISLE



Here they go again: Ol Parker directs Roberts and Clooney

Julia Roberts and George Clooney return to the big screen with a tropical island fling

**N**o place is more romantic than Bali. As the setting for *Ticket to Paradise*, it provides an intimate backdrop for Julia Roberts and George Clooney. But the two play warring divorced parents out to prevent their daughter's wedding. Written and directed by Ol Parker of *Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again* fame, *Ticket to Paradise* sees the romcom return – after two decades – of Roberts. It's also a return to a golden age of Hollywood, but with a twist: in this screwball romance, comedy takes the lead.

Friends in real life, Roberts and Clooney are two of the few remaining "movie stars" and have appeared together in films including *Ocean's Eleven* and *Money Monster*. *Ticket to Paradise* brings them back to the type of charming, fun roles for which fans have come to adore them.

This love-hate-laugh romp creates ample opportunity for playful bickering and mutual mocking. Even before they get to Bali, the ex-couple find themselves seated next to each other on the plane, despite booking tickets separately. But these irritable exes are united on one thing: stopping their daughter from marrying

a man she's only just met. Sure, they hate each other, but they're still parents. And they care enough to help (read: sabotage) their daughter's nuptials so that she doesn't make the same mistake they made 25 years earlier.

Having two good pals play ex-spouses, *Ticket to Paradise* is following a Hollywood tradition. Another custom is to film on location, though not necessarily the one in the story: *Ticket to Paradise* is set in Bali but was shot in Australia.

Mind you, going on location hasn't always been a Hollywood thing. In 1978, Bette Davis quipped: "In the olden days, Hollywood would have built the Nile for you. Nowadays, films have become travelogues and actors are stuntmen."

Davis, a legend of the big screen, knew the magic of storytelling is in illusion not reality. She also did not appreciate the flies, heat and 4am starts endured for the original *Death on the Nile* film.

One of the essential crafts in film-making is location illusion.

Manchester and Toronto frequently stand in for New York for feature films, such as *Captain America: The First Avenger* and *Morbius*, as well as series including *The Crown*. Cincinnati played Manhattan in *Carol* and *Scarface* swapped in Los Angeles for Miami. When the late director Bertrand Tavernier went to Scotland to shoot his science-fiction film *Death Watch* (1980), he made clear the reason for his choice of city: "Edinburgh is beautiful, Glasgow is dramatic." Arguably his film paved the way for Glasgow to stand in as Philadelphia in *World War Z*.

Set in the lush tropical surroundings of Bali, *Ticket to Paradise* has no trouble ticking all the romantic boxes. But the heady environment – heightened by sunshine, sea and sand – lends itself to the having of fun, too. Lots of it.

To capture that exotic holiday feel, filming took place on the Whitsunday Islands, off the coast of Queensland, Australia, a location that provided the perfect backdrop for this wildly funny story of love and hate.

With additional filming around Brisbane and the sparkling waters off Australia's Gold Coast, *Ticket to Paradise* revels in the great

cinematic tradition of taking audiences to locations of dazzling beauty they might not ordinarily see.

The main driver of the movie's mischief is a focus on family and relationship dynamics. What you have here is a dialled up battle of the exes who hate each other yet must unite for a cause close to both their hearts.

That cause is their daughter Lily, played by rising star Kaitlyn Dever (*Booksmart*, *Dear Evan Hansen*). Meanwhile, Lucas Bravo (*Emily in Paris*, *Mrs Harris Goes to Paris*) and Billie Lourd (*Booksmart*, *Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker*) round out a stellar troupe. With Hollywood royalty and a fine supporting cast, *Ticket to Paradise* promises hectic ensemble comedy that hinges on romantic history.

Of course, it's also about getting us to identify with the plot and the players. They act out a tale in which we can lose ourselves. *Ticket to Paradise* provides stars we know and love in a rollicking story. We can break out the popcorn, settle into our cinema armchairs and happily suspend disbelief for two hours.

*Ticket to Paradise* may feature friends as lovers, Oz as Bali and bickering as performance, but it has one thing you can't fake: chemistry. That's why Julia Roberts and George Clooney are true stars, as well as being friends and frequent on-screen collaborators. Their double act makes *Ticket to Paradise* the ultimate hot ticket. If Hollywood is a kingdom of illusion, its gold is the masterful comic timing that emerges when talent meets charisma. Pure stardust.

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## POP &amp; ROCK

## Sim's solo high point

**Oliver Sim**  
**Hideous Bastard** ★★★★★  
 Young



Produced by his bandmate Jamie xx, the xx singer and bassist's debut solo album is a remarkable record — brave, beautiful and affirming. *Hideous*, its opening track, combines extraordinarily powerful lyrics with shimmering, strings-flecked electronica, topped off by a heart-tugging cameo from Jimmy Somerville. It addresses the HIV Sim has lived with since he was 17 and his openness about his sexuality. As elsewhere on the album, Sim's greatest achievement

ALBUM  
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is to delve deep in the shadows and somehow locate light, making the album ultimately more about optimism and rebirth than alienation and fear. Dubby textures, layered and treated vocals, and a filigreed minimalism give songs such as the gospel-tinged *GMT*, the menacing, lyrically self-aware *Never Here* and the David Sylvian-like *Unreliable Narrator* a haunting quality. Throughout, Sim's fragile but forthright baritone croons melodies of compelling emotional heft. His main band hangs heavily over the lovely (if bleak) ballad *Saccharine*, but this is Sim's album and story, and you need to hear it. **Dan Cairns**

**Julian Lennon**  
**Jude** ★★★★★  
 BMG

On his first album since 2011, Julian Lennon puts the past to rest: the cover bears a photograph of him as a child, while the title needs no explanation. On songs such as *Not One Night* and *Gaia* (with Elissa Lauper and the Blue Nile's Paul Buchanan), he radiates well-deserved peace and serenity. **DC**

**Jockstrap**  
**I Love You Jennifer B**  
 ★★★★★  
 Rough Trade

This opening gambit from Taylor Skye and Black Country, New Road's Georgia Ellery is strange and stunning. Pastoral folk, ambient electronica, impressionistic lyrics, curveball interjections, hymnal structures: what a beguiling debut. **DC**

## CLASSICAL

**Schoenberg, Webern**  
**Kammersymphonie Op 9, Sechs Kleine Stücke Op 19, Symphony Op 21, Fünf Sätze Op 5** ★★★★★  
*Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne, cond Heinz Holliger*  
 Fuga Libera



Teacher and pupil, both, at different speeds and in distinctive voices, navigating a path from tonal and structural tradition and formalism, and inching towards a new

musical expression: tracing the journeys undergone by Schoenberg and Webern is endlessly fascinating and illuminating, and these fine recordings spring fresh surprises. Most intriguing is Holliger's orchestration of Schoenberg's six piano pieces, Op 19, where the aridness of the recording brings a level of detail and precision that makes hearing them seem like your first encounter with the work. The Lausanne orchestra's performance of Webern's Five Movements is revelatory in this expanded form. **DC**



LAURA PLEIFER

## DID MOZART HAVE ADHD?

That's what one professor decided after playing on the piano owned by the composer. By *Jessica Duchen*

Imagine playing a piano that once belonged to Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. "You look down at the concavities on its keys and you get goosebumps," says the American pianist Robert Levin. He has just recorded Mozart's complete piano sonatas on the composer's instrument. "The hairs on the back of your neck stand up when you think that Mozart played all of his Viennese music on this. It's both a thrill and daunting."

Mozart's fortepiano was made by Gabriel Anton Walter in about 1782. Its five octaves produce a sound that is sparkling, clear and expressive. In the composer's birthplace, Salzburg, the Mozarteum Foundation has maintained its condition lovingly; Levin, an emeritus professor at Harvard, is one of the few musicians lucky enough to enjoy access.

"Every instrument wants to be played in a particular way," he says. "When you adjust your touch to try to bring out the best in the instrument, the piano will go with us and do anything that we want. But if we fight with it, it will fight back, and the results would not be good for the instrument, the performer and least of all for the composer."

What you hear in his recording might take you by surprise. This piano is the musical equivalent of a holy relic. Yet to play Mozart as if whispering in a cathedral is completely antithetical to

**Key to greatness**  
 Robert Levin at Mozart's fortepiano

the composer's mercurial personality, Levin suggests. "All the information we have about Mozart as a performer, including his own accounts, shows that he relished his role of showman and that his instruments enabled a great deal of interpretive freedom."

"This piano is not necessarily delicate. It can be played with exquisite delicacy and the 'moderator', a knee-operated mute, creates an exquisite soft sound. But a typical performance of Mozart on a 21st-century piano doesn't risk going above a mezzo-forte for fear that the results might be uncouth. I think this is misguided, although I'm not suggesting that you bash the bloody hell out of the instrument."

"Mozart doesn't write a lot of fortissimos, but there are cases in which he does." He points to the A minor Sonata K310, written just after the death of Mozart's mother. "It's one of the most violent pieces written in the 18th century. Trying to play that in a pious way would be unfortunate."

He speculates, too, that Mozart may have had a form of attention deficiency disorder. "He's constantly, restlessly changing the music's character in the most unpredictable way, from moment to moment. Suddenly he goes from the jocular to the sentimental, or from the sensuous to joking to being nostalgic, melancholic or ardent."

"My approach has been to try to look inside the music and see the extraordinary flexibility of his rhythms, the subtlety of his harmonies, the constant striving for changes of character, and to bring those to the fore. And if some people are shocked by this, I have to take that risk because this characterisation is absolutely central to Mozart's persona as an artist."

"I prefer a performance in which there is some danger," he says, "in which we hold our breath. I'm willing to trade a little blood on the keys to communicate to the audience that there is something at risk here."

Levin, who long ago studied composition with Nadia Boulanger and Stefan Wolpe, has also finished and recorded several of the many sonata movements that Mozart left incomplete.

"My goal is to try to slide into Mozart's skin, to adopt his personal language so that someone who did not know the piece would be unaware of where he broke off."

His next task is to finish his project — which he started the 1990s — to record the composer's piano concertos with the Academy of Ancient Music. And if anybody is shocked by the audacity with which a distinguished professor, after a lifetime's experience in this field, can create such fresh and joyous magic, that's just tough. Listening to him, you could almost imagine that you're hearing Mozart himself. **C**

*The Mozart Sonatas on Mozart's Piano is released on Sep 16 on ECM*



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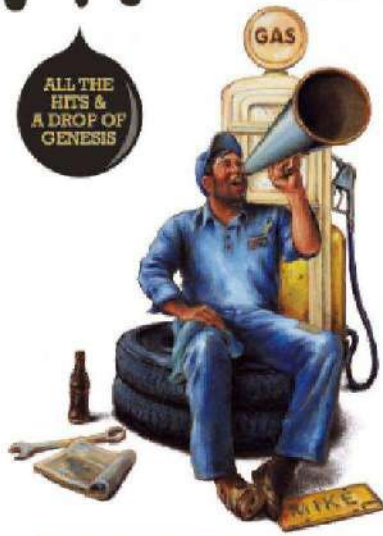
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05 NOV CROYDON FAIRFIELD HALLS  
07 NOV SOUTHEAST CLIFFS PAVILION  
08 NOV BOURNEMOUTH PAVILION  
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15 NOV NOTTINGHAM ROYAL CONCERT HALL  
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19 NOV HUNGERFORD LITTLEBOY HOUSE HOTEL  
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23 NOV CARDIFF ST DAVID'S HALL  
24 NOV BATH FORUM  
25 NOV EASTLEIGH CONCORDE CLUB  
26 NOV YORK BARBICAN  
28 NOV BEDFORD CORN EXCHANGE  
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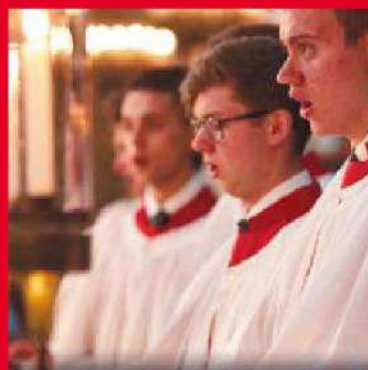
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**WED 21 DEC 7.30PM**  
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The angelic voices of the chapel choristers, along with the Philharmonia Orchestra and Crouch End Festival Chorus perform excerpts from Messiah, Vivaldi's Gloria and many more plus carols for all.



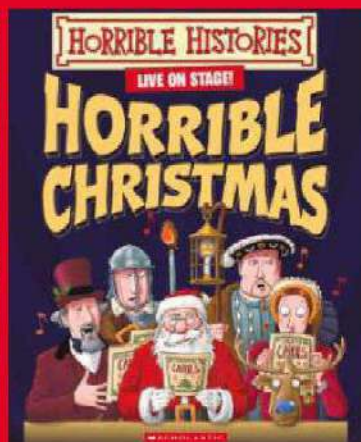
**THURS 22 DEC 7.30PM**  
**CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**

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**FRI 30 DEC 7.30PM**  
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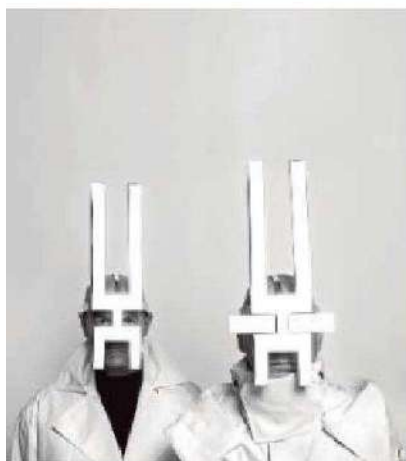
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23 LIVERPOOL M&S BANK ARENA  
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★★★★★

THE TIMES  
THE GUARDIAN  
DAILY TELEGRAPH  
METRO  
NME

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(RARE UK APPEARANCE)  
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MON 17 OCTOBER  
CARDIFF MOTORPOINT ARENA

WED 19 OCTOBER  
LONDON OVO ARENA WEMBLEY

FRI 21 OCTOBER  
GLASGOW OVO HYDRO

SUN 23 OCTOBER  
BIRMINGHAM  
RESORTS WORLD ARENA

TUE 25 OCTOBER  
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13 Manchester Opera House	29 London The Adelphi
15 Reading Hexagon	30 Ipswich Regent Theatre

December 2022

02 Birmingham Symphony Hall
03 Cambridge Corn Exchange
05 Nottingham Royal Concert Hall
06 York Barbican
07 Glasgow Royal Concert Hall
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10 Newcastle O2 City Hall
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JUNE 2023

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MON 05 JUNE	MANCHESTER O2 APOLLO
TUE 06 JUNE	BIRMINGHAM <b>SOLD OUT</b> ALEXANDRA
FRI 09 JUNE	BIRMINGHAM <b>SOLD OUT</b> ALEXANDRA
TUE 13 JUNE	LONDON EVENTIM APOLLO
WED 14 JUNE	LONDON EVENTIM APOLLO
THU 15 JUNE	LONDON EVENTIM APOLLO
FRI 16 JUNE	LONDON EVENTIM APOLLO
SAT 17 JUNE	LONDON EVENTIM APOLLO
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OCTOBER 2022

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SUN 02 UEA, NORWICH	TUE 11 O2 ACADEMY, LEICESTER
MON 03 THE FIRE STATION, SUNDERLAND	WED 12 BRANGWYN HALL, SWANSEA
TUE 04 USHER HALL, EDINBURGH	THU 13 TROXY, LONDON
THU 06 THE IRONWORKS, INVERNESS	SAT 15 DREAMLAND, MARGATE
FRI 07 KEELE UNIVERSITY, STOKE-ON-TRENT	SUN 16 NEW THEATRE, OXFORD
SAT 08 EVENTIM OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL	MON 17 O2 ACADEMY, BOURNEMOUTH

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Wed 12 Oct	Glasgow	SEC Armadillo
Thu 13 Oct	York	Barbican
<b>SOLD OUT</b>	Birmingham	Symphony Hall
<b>SOLD OUT</b>	Edinburgh	Usher Hall
Sun 16 Oct	Newcastle	O2 City Hall
Tue 18 Oct	Blackpool	Winter Gardens
Wed 19 Oct	Hull	Bonus Arena
Fri 21 Oct	Manchester	O2 Apollo
Sat 22 Oct	Sheffield	City Hall
Mon 24 Oct	Liverpool	Philharmonie Hall
<b>SOLD OUT</b>	Oxford	New Theatre
<b>SOLD OUT</b>	Ipswich	Regent Theatre
<b>SOLD OUT</b>	Southend	Cliffs Pavilion
Mon 31 Oct	Torquay	Princess Theatre
Tue 01 Nov	Plymouth	Guildhall
Thu 03 Nov	Cardiff	Se Dac's Hall
Fri 04 Nov	Bournemouth	Pavilion Theatre
Sat 05 Nov	Brighton	Brighton Centre
Mon 07 Nov	Nottingham	Regent Concert Hall
Tue 08 Nov	Bath	The Forum
Thu 10 Nov	Swansea	Arena
<b>SOLD OUT</b>	New London	Palladium

2ND DATE ADDED DUE TO DEMAND  
Sat 12 Nov London Palladium

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A tour to celebrate 25 years of 'LEFT OF THE MIDDLE' plus all the hits & new songs from Natalie's latest album 'FIREBRID'

October 2022

Mon 10 - Bristol SWX
Wed 12 - London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire
Fri 14 - Bexhill De La Warr
Sun 16 - Manchester O2 Ritz
Mon 17 - Birmingham O2 Institute
Tue 18 - Glasgow SWG3

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# DEEP PURPLE

PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS  
**Blue Mystic Cult**

OCTOBER 2022

THU 20	THE O2 LONDON
SAT 22	OVO HYDRO GLASGOW
SUN 23	FIRST DIRECT ARENA LEEDS
TUE 25	UTILITA ARENA BIRMINGHAM
WED 26	MANCHESTER AO ARENA

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# STATUS QUO

WITH VERY SPECIAL GUEST  
**SHAKIN' STEVENS**

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ABERDEEN P&J LIVE

SAT 26 NOVEMBER  
GLASGOW SEC ARMADILLO

MON 28 NOVEMBER  
LEEDS FD ARENA

WED 30 NOVEMBER  
BRIGHTON CENTRE

THU 01 DECEMBER  
BOURNEMOUTH BIC

SAT 03 DECEMBER  
LONDON OVO ARENA WEMBLEY

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# Why we have nightmares

This fascinating account of scary dreams and nocturnal disturbances will keep you up at night

## SLEEP

James McConnachie

**Night Terrors** Troubled Sleep and the Stories We Tell About It by Alice Vernon  
Icon £16.99 pp272

The two things most of us know about nightmares, according to this fascinating book, are not true. First, they are not caused by indigestion. This pervasive folk belief, Alice Vernon says, was popularised by Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*, who blamed his ghostly apparitions on “an undigested bit of beef, a blot of mustard, a crumb of cheese, a fragment of an underdone potato”.

Nor do we have dreams – either good or bad – in black and white. That idea stems from the era of pre-colour films and television when, amazingly, only a minority of people claimed that their dreams had colour. Since then it seems we have all gone – or reverted to – full Technicolor.

These myths are busted as part of a rich, immersive study of not just nightmares but the full range of parasomnias – the strange sleep disorders that can afflict us. Vernon is a lecturer in creative writing at Aberystwyth University, and she draws on science, both current and historical, literature and, fascinatingly, her own extraordinary experiences. She sleepwalks. She fights enemies and intruders, thrashing around so violently in bed that she has pulled ▶

**Don't let the bugs bite** The Nightmare by Henry Fuseli, c 1790





► muscles. She experiences nightmare paralysis – that crushing sensation where you're the helplessly immobile victim of whatever is pursuing you. She has terrifying night-time hallucinations. On the plus side, she has lucid dreams – where you can control what you do, up to a point.

All this makes her an extreme case – and an interesting writer – but it does not make her weird. Because about 70 per cent of us have experienced at least one parasomnia.

The problem is our reluctance to talk about it. Vernon ascribes this partly to how parasomnias are culturally entangled with the paranormal. Sleepwalking in particular has been bathed in superstition since it was exploited by the original 18th-century hypnotist, Franz Mesmer, and later spiritualist mediums. Vernon turns up some wild Victorian sleepwalking accounts, including a student doctor on his rounds who was appalled to discover that, the night before, he had ridden to see his patient, in the middle of winter, and handed over some mysterious “powders”.

In another shocking case from 1876, a mother was found not guilty of murdering her child – she cut off the four-month-old's hand with a table knife, in her sleep. Juries still sometimes acquit today. Vernon describes two recent cases, including a man from south Wales who strangled his wife in a camper van in 2009, and was found not guilty. It is true that science has shown how the part of the sleepwalker's brain that deals with intentions remains effectively asleep while their movements are directed by memories and reflexes.

Vernon recounts her own somnambulant experiences in a likeable way. How she sleep-stole moisturiser from her terrified sister's bedside table, and whispered to her worried mother, at the top of the stairs, that she was on her way to give a cake to Gwen Stefani. Her parents keep a stair-gate in the house still.

Not all her nocturnal escapades are funny. Vernon has hypnopompic hallucinations. These are dreams you actually see, while awake, and they are

## “The author has terrifying night-time hallucinations

mercifully rare. It seems that the dreaming brain's slow-wave patterns persist even while other parts of the mind wake up, allowing dream images to “slip into the world around you”. And nightmare images: Vernon saw a terrifying, completely realistic Victorian-looking woman and child appear at her bedside every night for a week until, on the last night, she found the woman standing right over her. Soon after, she woke to see a woman's head on the pillow right next to her – until it split open in a silent scream. If that sounds bad, you won't want to read about the dream in which she looks at herself in the mirror. I wish I hadn't.

Vernon sometimes fights off her intruders – an example of the potentially dangerous REM Behaviour Disorder, whereby the paralysis that usually stops us acting out our dreams fails to engage. Hence her thrashing.

A more common experience – about a quarter of us have had it – is when the distinctive dreaming paralysis persists while we start to wake. This is the original “nightmare”, the term probably coming from “mara”, an Old Norse word for witch – who, it was said,

**Scary stuff** Christopher Lee as Dracula



SHUTTERSTOCK

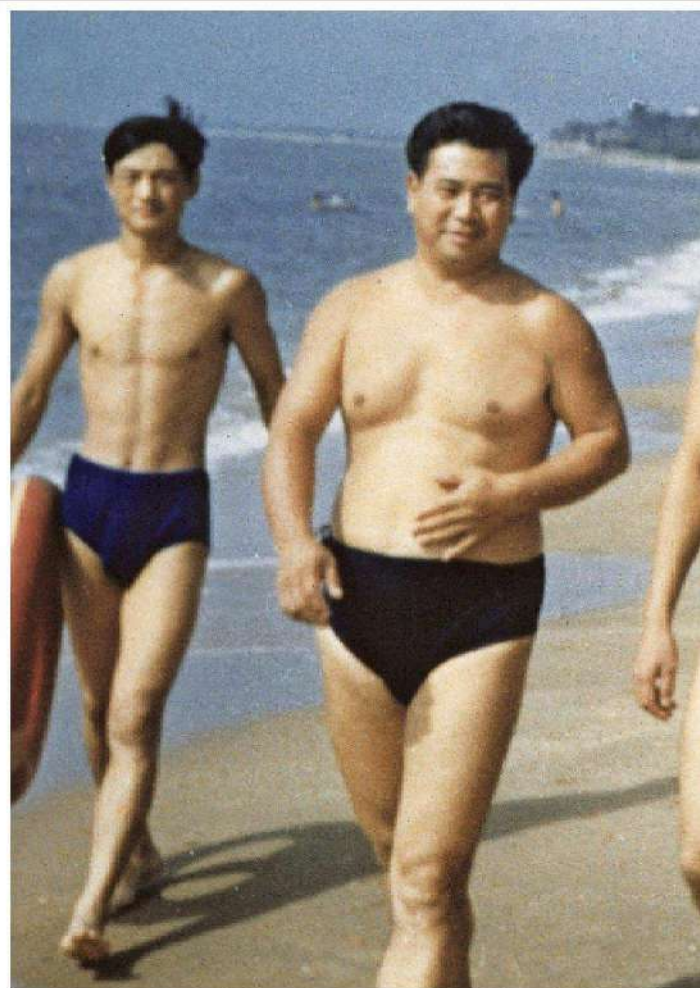
visited in the night and sat on your chest. The scientific explanation is that the waking brain conjures up an explanation for the continuing sensation of dream-immobility.

Vernon's paralysing visitors feel demonic. Or, sometimes, horribly “handsy”. The morning after such a nightmare, Vernon says, “the hands seem to linger and I wear the experience like a heavy coat”. She can really write. And she can really write about writers. Alongside the science – confidently handled – are insightful readings of literature, mostly Victorian. She calls *Dracula* “a novel about the anxiety of intrusions”, for instance.

Fear is very much a theme here. Vernon argues persuasively for much more openness around parasomnias. If we understood nightmares better, for instance, fewer people might believe they have been visited by ghosts or abducted by aliens. We might also have less distress, or fear of mental illness – which is unrelated. Vernon reports that one study found that almost three quarters of children reported being afraid at bedtime – although, chillingly, only a third of their parents realised it.

A final chapter offers a possible way to tackle nightmares. In recent years, “lucid dreaming”, in which you wake yourself up just enough so as to be able to rescript the dream narrative, has become something of a cult practice. Vernon learns to do it as a way out of nightmares. “I would drag myself out,” she says, “like walking through thick mud.” Fascinatingly, she cannot do whatever she wants in a lucid dream, but she can “come up with a path for the dream to take”. Stuck in a cemetery, for instance, she draws a door in the otherwise unscalable perimeter wall, and escapes. When she wants to bring a person into a dream, she says their name to herself, and reaches out behind her; when they take her hand, she can bring them into the dream.

This book felt like an extended hand to me. It is curious, lively, humble, utterly genuine – and, if you're a sufferer too, wonderfully reassuring. It is a remarkable debut. 🍷



# How China

**A damning account of how the People's Republic never made the reforms it claimed to embrace**

CHINA

**Michael Sheridan**

**China after Mao**  
The Rise of a Superpower  
by Frank Dikötter  
Bloomsbury £25 pp375

A few weeks from now, Xi Jinping is likely to be reconfirmed as the leader of China, a rising power where “zero Covid” is a triumph, minorities live happily and true human rights flourish – at least, that is, according to his propagandists.

To Frank Dikötter, an eminent Dutch historian of the People's Republic, the creation

of falsehood is the governing principle of the Communist Party and he has written a revolutionary book to prove it.

*China after Mao* follows the author's prizewinning trilogy on famine, chaos and repression under Chairman Mao Zedong, and it complements his works on dictatorship. “Everyone has been told that an economic miracle took place,” he writes of the era after 1978 when Mao's heirs spoke of “reform and opening up”.

The story bought by foreigners told of socialism-lite, a vibrant private sector, more freedom and an El Dorado for all concerned as China marched towards the status of a responsible stakeholder in world affairs. It was, the author argues, a lie. Breaking with the bland orthodoxy peddled in some of our finest universities, Dikötter says that China today is a Leviathan where a party, fascist in all but name, controls





XINHUA/GETTY IMAGES. INSET: GETTY IMAGES

# fooled us all

society using “capitalist tools in socialist hands” to enrich its elites while “financial repression” keeps the countryside down and the workers poor. Even the premier, Li Keqiang, says that 600 million people still live on \$140 (£114) a month. Yet the regime splurges on space shots, nukes and a new navy to show off its power, while sitting on the largest foreign exchange reserves on earth.

Dikötter marshals a daunting array of statistics and documents, drawing on the diaries of Li Rui, one of Mao’s aides, as well as western diplomatic cables and reports by foreign journalists. He starts with the transition “from one dictatorship to another” when the tiny, chain-smoking Deng Xiaoping emerged as leader after Mao. In the 1970s China was almost totally communist, so Deng made big changes by ending collective farms, allowing private business and shaking up state-owned giants.

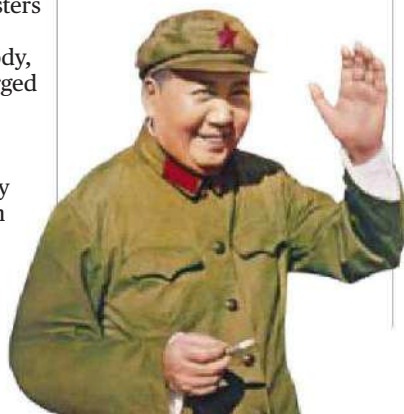
These moves won praise abroad but Dikötter refuses to join the applause. There was no real market reform, he says; the regime stuck to “classic Marxist parlance” instead of letting the entrepreneurial skill and diligence of the Chinese people flourish.

Between wild booms and retrenchment, a bewildered politburo grappled with devaluation, debt and inflation, unwilling to yield control yet unable to avert unrest. It came to a bitter climax in 1989 with the defeat of the party’s “liberal” faction and the massacre of protesters in Tiananmen Square.

The author spares nobody, depicting the “liberal” purged premier Zhao Ziyang as a dithering opportunist and his ally, the party chief Hu Yaobang, as a thug wrongly mourned by the masses on his premature death. Both men were authoritarians, he argues, even though Zhao dined with Margaret

**Man of power** Deng Xiaoping, front, at the seaside. Below: Mao Zedong

**“He breaks with the bland orthodoxy about China in our universities**



Thatcher at Downing Street.

Meanwhile Chinese people were executed for white-collar crimes, women suffered forced abortions, religions faced persecution and the party’s mania for control never abated.

Above all, the book is an indictment of central planning, which Dikötter blames for China’s chaotic progress. “A basic skill in any planned economy was the ability to subvert the master plan,” he writes. Creative accounting, bribes, black markets and dodgy statistics all subverted the party’s commands.

Yet in the 1990s era of Jiang Zemin (“underneath a smooth façade... a staunch Marxist-Leninist”) China became an export machine, a magnet for global capital. Dikötter argues that China joined the World Trade Organisation under false pretences, never intending to open its own markets. Privatisations were a sham. The “reform” of state enterprises just created a bloc of 500 national champions and threw millions out of work. As for stock markets, shareholders and investment banks, he brilliantly dissects the example of China Telecom. Officials built up the firm, put it under central bank control, fed it with ordinary people’s savings, hired foreigners to make it look good and then sold “a small number of highly priced shares on foreign stock markets on the basis of future value”.

This book is the case for the prosecution, of course, and in his zeal the author gives no credit to the party for a fast-changing nation whose citizens live freer personal lives than their parents did.

But why should he? Long before the rise of Xi, the American Chamber of Commerce in Beijing in 2003 proclaimed that “the honeymoon is over”. Yet it was not. Only now, after a pandemic, a recession, trade wars and real wars, do the democracies grasp the scale of the autocratic threat and the risk of a global conflict.

Historians such as Dikötter are there to warn, and I could not finish his book without recalling the final words of Barbara Tuchman’s masterwork on 1914, *The Guns of August*: “The nations were caught in a trap... a trap from which there was, and has been, no exit.”

## CHILDREN’S BOOK OF THE WEEK

NICOLETTE JONES



**The Book of Stolen Dreams** by David Farr, illustrated by Kristina Kister  
Usborne £7.99, age 9-12

Siblings Rachel and Robert (12 and 14) live under the tyrannical rule of President Malstain who maintains power with torture and executions (not described in detail). A rare book, passed on to them by their librarian father, who is then imprisoned, will enable Malstain’s rule to last for ever, and it falls to the two children to curtail the dictatorship. Told by a distinguished scriptwriter with clarity, feeling and clever plotting, this involving tale asks who can be trusted in a world full of traitors, but finds the good in the end. An adventure with a light touch despite dark subjects, with vivid characters ranging from a street musician in a penguin-shaped hat to a flamboyant poetess on the side of the underdog. The story is on the side of friendship, courage and sibling solidarity.

## WATCH OUT FOR

**The Boy Who Dreamed Dragons** by Caryl Lewis, illus Carmen Saldana  
Puffin £12.99, age 3-6

A sparkling picture book full of warmth, colour and magic about a boy eager for bedtime because he dreams of dragons that stay with him through the day. Other children mock him till he finds a friend who dreams of tigers.



October 5, 1962: the first Beatles single and Bond film come out

# The day we changed

## HISTORY

**Dominic Sandbrook**

### Love and Let Die

Bond, the Beatles and the British Psyche by John Higgs  
W&N £22 pp528

For most people, Friday, October 5, 1962, was an entirely uneventful day. The papers were dominated by the Labour leader Hugh Gaitskell's speech to his party conference, in which he had warned that British entry into the European Economic Community would mean "the end of a thousand years of history". Masked robbers had ambushed a mail van in Dungeness, while the young Princess Anne had just visited a coalmine, which she found "a wonderful place". Above all, the papers warned, it was going to be very windy.

It was, in other words, a slow news day.

Yet that Friday in October 1962 was a landmark in cultural history. That morning, John Higgs writes, "a new seven-inch single was placed in the racks of record shops across the land". The title was *Love Me Do*, by a little-known band called the Beatles. And there was more.

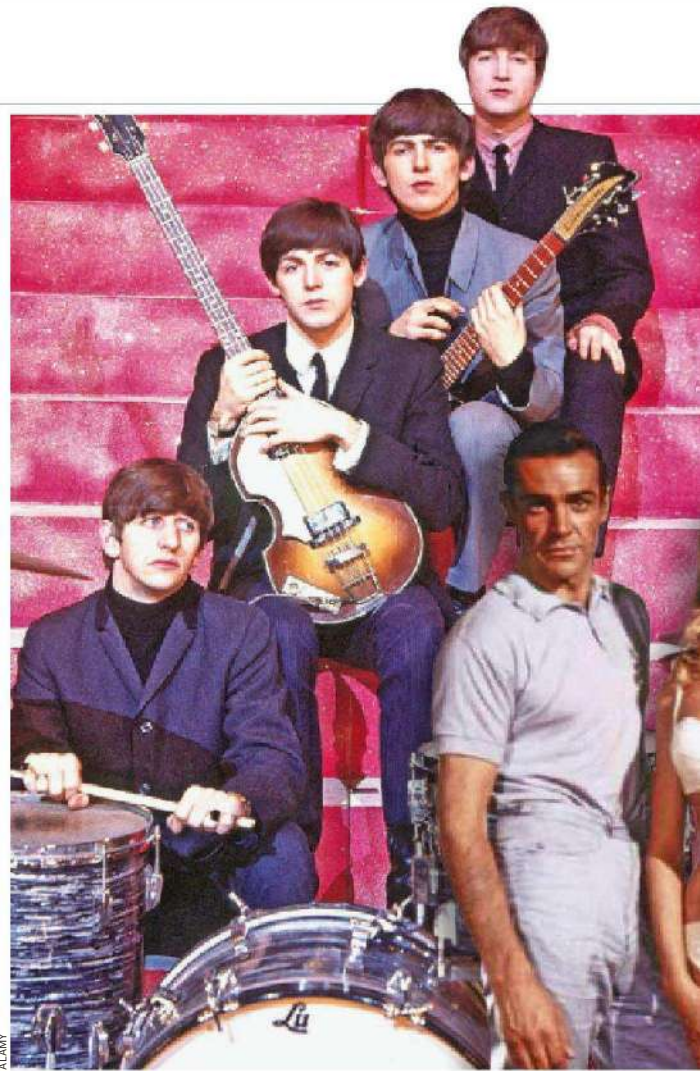
That evening, at the London Pavilion on Shaftesbury Avenue, cinemagoers had their first glimpse of Sean Connery as the most glamorous secret agent on the planet. "He is snobbish, brutal and sneering," *The Observer* said of Bond in *Dr No*. "A vile man to be given as a hero." But the rest, as they say...

The coincidence of the first Beatles single and the first Bond film gives Higgs the premise for his eccentric jaunt through their interwoven

histories. As he points out, they have become avatars of British national identity, and remain arguably the most important symbols of Britain's postwar transformation from an imperial superpower to a pop-cultural entertainer.

Occasionally their paths crossed directly, such as when Paul McCartney and Wings recorded the title song for Roger Moore's *Live and Let Die* – the greatest of all Bond films, as any sane critic will agree.

And Higgs teases out some other entertaining coincidences. He notes that when the young Beatles went to Hamburg in August 1960, McCartney's father, Jim, and John Lennon's aunt Mimi were anxious about their boys going off to a foreign port with such a sleazy reputation. But they might have been even more alarmed had they read Ian Fleming's *Sunday Times* feature on Hamburg's nightlife



## THE SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLERS

● The autumn battle of the big fiction beasts has begun with a very strong first outing for Robert Harris's much-praised new novel, but Robert Galbraith, aka JK Rowling, claiming the spoils with her new Cormoran Strike crime caper. Not much sign there, gratifyingly, of her sales being affected by the constant trolling she receives.

● And are we about to see Charlie Mackesy's *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse* finally dipping over the bestseller horizon? It's still there at No 10, but...

The lists are prepared by and the data is supplied by (and copyrighted to) Nielsen BookScan, and are taken from the TCM for the week ending 03/09/22. Figures shown are sales for the seven-day period.

### GENERAL HARDBACKS

		Last week	Weeks in top 10
1	<b>How to Be Confident</b> James Smith (HarperCollins £20) The personal trainer's no-nonsense advice for overcoming self-doubt (11,240)	—	1
2	<b>How to Live When You Could Be Dead</b> Deborah James (Vermilion £14.99) On finding hope and strength during life's darkest moments (5,690)	1	3
3	<b>Why Has Nobody Told Me This Before?</b> Julie Smith (M Joseph £16.99) Clinical psychologist's advice for navigating life's ups and downs (4,390)	2	35
4	<b>Apollo Remastered</b> /Andy Saunders (Particular £60) Restored images of Apollo missions produced from 50-year-old original film (4,175)	—	1
5	<b>A Different Stage</b> /Gary Barlow (Penguin £30) The story of the singer-songwriter's life told through music and personal photos (3,325)	—	1
6	<b>Birds</b> /Jim Moir (Unbound £14.99) A collection of paintings of 100 British birds by the comedian Vic Reeves (3,280)	—	1
7	<b>And Finally</b> /Henry Marsh (Cape £16.99) The retired brain surgeon on the impact of his diagnosis of advanced cancer (3,035)	—	1
8	<b>What We Owe the Future</b> /William MacAskill (Oneworld £20) On the challenges we face and the influence we have on humanity's future (2,300)	—	1
9	<b>Revenge</b> /Tom Bower (Blink £22) The biographer on Meghan, Prince Harry and the rift with the royal family (2,245)	3	7
10	<b>The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse</b> Charlie Mackesy (Ebury £16.99) An illustrated fable containing gentle life philosophy (1,550)	7	152

### GENERAL PAPERBACKS

		Last week	Weeks in top 10
1	<b>A Family Torn Apart</b> Cathy Glass (HarperCollins £8.99) Two young sisters are removed from their home after a serious accusation (11,990)	—	1
2	<b>Taste</b> /Stanley Tucci (Fig Tree £9.99) A gastronomic journey through the actor's life in and out of the kitchen (5,575)	—	1
3	<b>This Much Is True</b> /Miriam Margolyes (J Murray £9.99) The Bafta-winning star of stage and screen reflects on her life and career (4,220)	1	9
4	<b>Windswept &amp; Interesting</b> /Billy Connolly (Two Roads £9.99) Memoir by the comedian who rose to fame after an appearance on <i>Parkinson</i> (3,500)	2	7
5	<b>And Away...</b> /Bob Mortimer (Simon & Schuster £8.99) The <i>Shooting Stars</i> and <i>Gone Fishing</i> funnyman's autobiography (2,830)	3	15
6	<b>Atomic Habits</b> /James Clear (Random House £16.99) The minuscule changes that can grow into life-altering outcomes (2,505)	5	54
7	<b>The Storyteller</b> /Dave Grohl (Simon & Schuster £9.99) The Nirvana and Foo Fighters rock star shares stories from his life (2,390)	4	13
8	<b>Good Vibes, Good Life</b> /Vex King (Hay House £10.99) How positive thinking, self-love and overcoming fear lead to lasting happiness (2,285)	6	128
9	<b>The Power of Geography</b> /Tim Marshall (Elliott & Thompson £9.99) A study of ten regions that could define global politics in the future (1,945)	9	44
10	<b>Prisoners of Geography</b> /Tim Marshall (Elliott & Thompson £9.99) Ten maps that tell you all you need to know about geopolitics (1,865)	10	143



**Big hits** The Beatles, Sean Connery and Ursula Andress

a couple of weeks earlier, which began with a description of some topless mud-wrestling, before discussing the attractions of the local girls, “‘for sale’ at a price, I am reliably informed, of twenty Reichsmarks”.

The piece had run despite the objections of Fleming’s editor, who found his enthusiasm for

prostitution “immoral and degrading”. But Bond’s creator was entirely unrepentant. “It is clear,” he wrote back, “that our views on public morals are at variance.”

The problem with writing about the Beatles and Bond is that so much has been said already. Higgs’s answer is to present them as competing symbols of two Freudian concepts,



Eros, “the instinct towards life”, and Thanatos, “the death drive”. The Beatles, he argues, represent openness and fun, while Bond is basically all about death. But this strikes me as utterly unconvincing. When Bond orders a vodka martini and sleeps with his glamorous contact, isn’t he celebrating the life instinct? Is *The Man with the Golden Gun*, with the three-nippled Christopher Lee and his diminutive sidekick Nick Nack, seriously a film about death? Do we really relish the parachute stunt that opens *The Spy Who Loved Me* because we are besotted by “the seductive nature of the death drive”?

When Higgs talks about the Beatles he often lurches into outright pretentiousness. Discussing the screaming of their teenage fans, he tells us that “in the midst of communal screaming, there is only the present moment, it happened outside of time and it was eternal. There are truths in that screaming that many religions have yet to grasp.” And he can be awfully mawkish. Of Lennon, a “profoundly human soul”, he writes: “His voice was proof

## “They are avatars of our national identity

that no matter how lost you may be, you are never alone, because there are people like John Lennon who can reach you.” What, I wonder, would Lennon have made of that?

By contrast, when Higgs writes about Bond, the word “problem” comes up again and again, reflecting a tone of pious disapproval. He tells us, for example, that “the Bond Girl problem” can’t be fixed, because “the problem is Bond”. But if millions of people love the films and keep going to see them, Bond isn’t really a problem, is he?

The other recurring word is “establishment”, which Higgs wields with the enthusiasm of Jeremy Corbyn talking about Israel. At one point he even breaks off for an excruciating discussion of how England

has been ruled by a corrupt establishment ever since 1066, and should really be known as the “Norman Continuity Empire”. The ruling class, he explains earnestly, “speaks with an invented accent which its members can use to identify each other, and which its children are taught at special schools. This is called Received Pronunciation, or RP.”

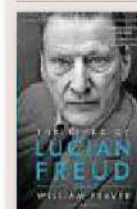
In the final pages, Higgs’s prose reaches a kind of peak of mysticism. “Love,” he says earnestly, “is open, and vulnerable, and impermanent. Death is closed, and isolated, and eternal... But if Bond learned anything in his ritual death and resurrection show, it is that these do not have to be mutually exclusive, binary options. It took sixty years for closed Bond to open. Now that this has happened, we know that going from closed to open is possible, just as it is possible to go from open to closed.”

I don’t really know what all this means, or what it has to do with Bond and the Beatles. But one thing is certain: if Higgs tires of life as a writer, a dazzling career in the Church of England awaits. 🇬🇧

## PAPERBACK OF THE WEEK

### The Lives of Lucian Freud

Fame 1968-2011  
by William Feaver  
Bloomsbury £14.99



The painter emerges as fully three-dimensional in this second part of Feaver’s biography.

He is selfish, spoilt, often reprehensible, sometimes vicious (not above posting dog faeces through an enemy’s letterbox), but also honest about his failings, generous and capable of inspiring great loyalty.


**Michael Prodger**

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## FICTION HARDBACKS

		Last week	Weeks in top 10
1	 <b>The Ink Black Heart</b> Robert Galbraith (Sphere £25) A popular cartoonist persecuted by a mysterious online figure is found dead (50,740)	—	1
2	<b>Babel</b> /RF Kuang (HarperVoyager £16.99) A student at the prestigious Royal Institute of Translation faces a dilemma (20,670)	—	1
3	<b>Act of Oblivion</b> /Robert Harris (Heinemann £22) The search is on for two men responsible for the murder of King Charles I (13,445)	—	1
4	<b>Carrie Soto Is Back</b> /Taylor Jenkins Reid (Heinemann £16.99) Six years after retiring, a legendary tennis player attempts a comeback (8,520)	—	1
5	<b>The Marriage Portrait</b> /Maggie O’Farrell (Tinder £25) A reimagining of the life of Lucrezia de’ Medici and her battle for survival (8,320)	—	1
6	<b>The Rising Tide</b> /Ann Cleeves (Macmillan £20) Vera Stanhope probes the death of a man recently fired after misconduct allegations (7,235)	—	1
7	<b>Titans of War</b> /Wilbur Smith and Mark Chadbourn (Zaffre £20) A great spy embarks on a dangerous mission to recruit allies to help defend Egypt (3,240)	—	1
8	<b>Lessons in Chemistry</b> /Bonnie Garmus (Doubleday £14.99) In 1960s America, a chemist becomes the star of a TV cooking show (3,005)	1	22
9	<b>Murder Before Evensong</b> /Richard Coles (Weidenfeld £16.99) The rector of a village works with the police to stop a killer striking again (2,075)	8	12
10	<b>Genesis</b> /Chris Carter (Simon & Schuster £16.99) Robert Hunter tracks a killer who leaves poems inside victims’ bodies (1,800)	2	3

## FICTION PAPERBACKS

		Last week	Weeks in top 10
1	 <b>It Ends With Us</b> Colleen Hoover (Simon & Schuster £8.99) A first love’s reappearance threatens a woman’s present relationship (19,630)	1	53
2	<b>Where the Crawdads Sing</b> /Delia Owens (Corsair £9.99) The coming-of-age tale of a reclusive girl abandoned by her family (13,845)	2	70
3	<b>How to Kill Your Family</b> /Bella Mackie (Borough £8.99) A woman avenges her mother’s death by bumping off her father and his family (11,245)	3	22
4	<b>The Paper Palace</b> /Miranda Cowley Heller (Penguin £8.99) A married mother-of-three’s shocking betrayal leads her to a life-changing decision (9,390)	21	3
5	<b>The Man Who Died Twice</b> /Richard Osman (Penguin £8.99) Stolen diamonds worth £20 million cause chaos for the Thursday Murder Club (9,245)	9	17
6	<b>The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo</b> /Taylor Jenkins Reid (Simon & Schuster £8.99) An ageing Hollywood icon reflects on her relentless rise to the top (9,240)	12	22
7	<b>Ugly Love</b> /Colleen Hoover (Simon & Schuster £8.99) The relationship between “friends with benefits” turns complicated (9,200)	8	24
8	<b>Love on the Brain</b> /Ali Hazelwood (Sphere £8.99) A scientist lands her dream job, but must work alongside her arch-nemesis (8,675)	4	2
9	<b>Apples Never Fall</b> /Liane Moriarty (Penguin £8.99) The adult children of a missing woman aren’t sure of their father’s innocence (8,245)	11	8
10	<b>Verity</b> /Colleen Hoover (Sphere £8.99) A ghostwriter discovers chilling secrets in her client’s unfinished autobiography (7,895)	5	8

## CHILDREN’S

		Last week	Weeks in top 10
1	<b>The Baddies</b> Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler (Alison Green £12.99) A ghost, a witch and a troll try to frighten a young girl (12,285)	—	1
2	<b>Nothing More to Tell</b> Karen M McManus (Penguin £8.99) An intern at a true crime show probes the unsolved murder of her favourite teacher (7,730)	—	1
3	<b>The Dragon’s Promise</b> Elizabeth Lim (Hodder £14.99) Princess Shiori’s quest to return the dragon pearl to its rightful owner continues (4,250)	—	1
4	<b>A Good Girl’s Guide to Murder</b> Holly Jackson (Electric Monkey £8.99) A student digs into a cold case, convinced the killer is still at large (4,065)	1	13
5	<b>Max Magic</b> Stephen Mulhern and Tom Easton (Piccadilly £7.99) Magic-loving Max Mullers needs a miracle to beat the bullies (3,775)	—	1



# She won't be silenced

Fiery essays from a writer who's a 'leftist radical' in the US and 'right-wing nut' here

## ESSAYS

Christina Patterson

### Abominations

by Lionel Shriver  
Borough Press £20 pp304

"I have never confused sitting down at my desk with attending Sunday school," Lionel Shriver says. She wrote this in a piece published in *Prospect* in 2018, one of 35 essays, columns, features and op-eds selected for this book. She was drawn to writing fiction, she says in the essay, because it allows her to be "mischievous, subversive and perverse" and to create characters who "do and say abominations". That freedom, she argues, is now under threat.

The essay is called *Writers Blocked*, which doesn't sound much like a description of her own career. Shriver has written 17 novels, including

the *Sunday Times* bestsellers *Big Brother* and *The Mandibles* and, of course, the Orange prizewinning *We Need to Talk about Kevin*, which shot her to international fame.

She has written for newspapers and magazines in the US (where she lives for part of the year) and the UK and has a fortnightly column in *The Spectator*. She is asked, in fact, to write so much, and do so much, that it is, she says in the opening piece, "a pain in the arse". Hold your tiny violins, perhaps, but it's true that some of the things she has written have created a stink.

The title of this book, *Abominations*, is semi-ironic, suggesting that her opinions are now as shocking as the actions of some of her wilder characters. The subtitle, *Selected Essays from a Career of Courting Self-Destruction*, suggests that this is how she likes it. The book is dedicated to Fraser Nelson, the editor of



JOEL SAGET/GETTY IMAGES

### Provocative Lionel Shriver

*The Spectator*, and his fellow editors who "never delete my jokes". It's certainly witty, provocative and has a wry tone that suggests she revels in her status as libertarian wild-child and scourge of a virtue-signalling, no-platforming literary world. It's also deadly serious.

Shriver hit the headlines when she put on a sombrero at the Brisbane Writers' Festival in 2016. She was making the point that authors are meant to "step into other people's shoes and try on their hats" and that the rise of identity

politics and obsession with "cultural appropriation" and "authenticity" meant that fiction itself was in serious trouble. If you're only allowed to write about people like yourself that's a "contraction of the fictional universe". Her statement of what, to many of us, seems to be the obvious created international uproar.

Shriver is at her best when writing about the threat to fiction, the imagination, the arts and culture generally, and the fear that many writers and artists now live with: that one slip, one clumsy word, one offence against the current orthodoxy, risks the

elimination of your entire career. She is also right that the targets of the social justice warriors are largely "the very folks who already care about decency and equal rights". She may, in her own words, be "an archconservative nut" in the UK, but in the US she's a "leftist radical". When Trump won, in 2016, she cried.

On issues ranging from trans rights to immigration and taxation, she is thoughtful and thought-provoking. It takes a brave soul, in a generally badly paid industry, to share resentment about having to pay lots of tax. Shriver is nothing if not brave. She can also, though, come across as startlingly unempathetic.

Famously anti-lockdown, she talks about "a single pathogen only moderately more lethal than the flu". Well, it's a pathogen that has killed at least 6.5 million people. She calls benefit claimants "client citizens" who "get irate" when "they're not given enough money". She sometimes weakens her arguments with hyperbole, which is a shame because she writes so well she really doesn't need to.

Some of these pieces have aged better than others, but all are testament to the fierce intelligence of a writer who wants us to think more, probe more, challenge more – and who also makes it fun. **B**

# The Rolling Stone who sketched every hotel bed he slept in

## BIOGRAPHY

Victoria Segal

### Charlie's Good Tonight

The Authorised Biography of Charlie Watts  
by Paul Sexton  
Mudlark £25 pp344

As befits an agent of rock'n'roll subversion, Keith Richards almost sabotages this authorised life of the Rolling Stones drummer Charlie Watts before the first chapter has begun. "Every time I think 'I'm going to talk about Charlie Watts'," he says in a touching foreword, "you realise the essential man wasn't something you put into words."

Even so, Paul Sexton is prepared to have a go. With

input from the drummer's inner circle – Mick Jagger also provides a fond foreword – plus quotes from interviews with the band, it's an affectionate portrait, one that recognises Watts as musician, colleague, family man, obsessive collector and immaculate dresser. Fans looking for lurid vérité won't find it here: it's a book that's as gentlemanly as its subject, who died in August 2021.

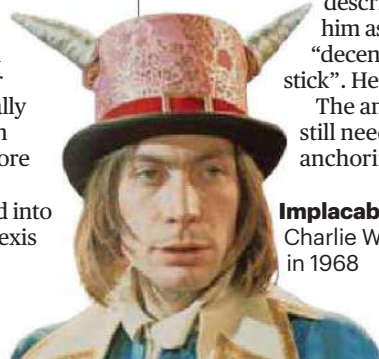
Born in Wembley in 1941, a lorry driver's son raised in a postwar prefab, Watts initially pursued a career in graphic design before jazz diverted his energies. Recruited into the Stones from Alexis Korner's Blues

Incorporated, he always considered himself a jazz musician, at a remove from rock'n'roll. Yet he quickly became essential to the band. A newspaper report from around 1965 detailed the chaos of live shows, Jagger dragged to the floor, "Brian Jones wrestling three punching teenagers". Meanwhile, "implacable Charlie Watts carried on playing stone-faced". A cab driver he used

described him as a "decent old stick". He was 26.

The anchor still needed anchoring,

**Implacable**  
Charlie Watts  
in 1968



MARK AND COLLEEN HAYWARD/REDFERNS

though. In 1964 Watts married the sculpture student Shirley Ann Shepherd. Most of his touring income trickled down an international phone line as he called home for hours. Once when he returned from touring "full of conceit", Shirley wrote to a friend, she made him clean the oven.

Yet there was clearly a turbulence behind his pristine façade and Sexton describes his eccentricities without ever quite unpicking them. His fastidiousness extended far beyond a preference for handmade shoes and suits that once belonged to Edward VIII. He sketched every hotel bed he ever slept in. Once, when fleeing from screaming fans at a venue, he had to turn back and run down the stairs again because, somehow, he

hadn't got them right. Sexton, honourably, doesn't try to psychoanalyse him any further but more frustrating is the biographer's vagueness on the drummer's surprising patch of heavy drug use during the mid-1980s.

Watts remains inscrutable here. He never learnt to drive, but would buy classic cars and sit in them with the engine running, enjoying their beauty. In *Charlie's Good Tonight*, he feels like a man on a ride he loved but still couldn't quite control, the disconnect between jazz man and rock'n'roll hero slightly jolting him in his beautifully tailored skin. "He was the realest guy I ever met," Richards writes, but for the reader Watts remains just beyond reach, at the back of the stage. **B**



# Cosy crime king v the critic

Our reviewer ignored Richard Osman's first novel and slated his second. Now that he has sold over five million copies, what's her verdict on his third outing?

## CRIME FICTION

Joan Smith

### The Bullet That Missed

by Richard Osman  
Viking £20 pp432

Crime fiction is a versatile genre. For some authors, the attraction is the way murder disrupts the social fabric, threatening disorder. For others, it is the powerful emotions stirred up by violent death. Then there is the lure of the puzzle, pointing first to one suspect, then another. For all these reasons, crime is a fascinating species of fiction, regularly featuring in the bestsellers charts.

No doubt Richard Osman's third novel, *The Bullet That Missed*, will soon be climbing those charts. Like the earlier books in the *Thursday Murder Club* series, it features four amateur detectives living in an upmarket retirement village in Kent, where they supposedly defy stereotypes about age by solving cold-case murders. It is a device that Osman has used repeatedly, milking the idea that it is disconcerting to hear elderly people airily discuss knife wounds or bitcoin.

Yet his habit of patting his characters on the head for knowing about cryptocurrency is as patronising as the assumptions he claims to be challenging. Agatha Christie invented Miss Marple almost a century ago, when the boundaries between the generations were still firmly in place, but there is no longer anything shocking about a woman in her seventies keeping up with current affairs.

One of the perks of being a book reviewer is being able to read novels before they are published. Two years ago I was sent a copy of Osman's first novel before anyone

had written a word about it. There is no reason why someone who is famous in another field shouldn't write a good novel, but neither should their work be judged more generously than that of any other debut author. A critic is not a publicist; my job is not to repeat lines from a press release or overlook flaws because a book might one day be a bestseller.

I didn't think *The Thursday Murder Club* was worth reviewing, and I stand by that judgment, despite the millions of sales. I was even less impressed by *The Man Who Died Twice*, which had an even weaker plot, but I reviewed it because I felt I needed to address what had clearly become a publishing phenomenon. In my piece I described the book as a mystery in more ways than one because Osman's novels have little in common with the best crime fiction. Celebrity has clearly had something to do with his success, but I suspect he also benefited from timing, publishing a positive story about older people when the news was full of harrowing accounts of the impact of Covid on residential homes.

The latest novel, which is nominally an investigation into the long-ago murder of a local TV reporter, is even more detached from reality than the previous two; a minor character from an earlier book is now in a women's prison, awaiting trial, and has a Nespresso machine in her cell and receives

weekly deliveries of Abel & Cole vegetable boxes. It does, however, contain a spectacular giveaway in the shape of an observation from another minor character, an improbable DCI called Chris.

Here is his verdict on the characters who make up the Thursday Murder Club: "They carried a kind of magic, the four of them. Sure, they recently condemned two men to their death on Fairhaven Pier, and stole an unimaginable amount of money, but they carried a kind of magic all the same."

Chris has inadvertently put his finger on one of the series' most significant

### What's up?

Richard Osman has penned his third crime novel

CARSTEN KOAL/LAUNY



flaws, which is the absence of any moral framework. Violent crime might be messy at times, but Osman's plots quickly move on to the next thing, which could be a heist or (as here) a death threat to one of the main characters. Even that evokes little anticipation because it's obvious that, in this world of magical unreality, they are all going to survive for the next adventure. Hence the books' other serious drawback, the persistent lack of any sense of jeopardy.

Crime writers are understandably reluctant to dispatch their fictional detectives, but there are other ways of creating suspense. None of these features in Osman's novels. His villains are neither credible nor threatening, and the appearance of a cheery new character who used to be the KGB station chief in Leningrad

feels particularly unfortunate in view of events in Ukraine.

There is nothing wrong with cosy crime, which has a distinguished pedigree going back to the 1920s. Osman has been credited with reviving the genre, but there are more accomplished modern exponents, such as Janice Hallett or even Richard Coles, who recently published a creditable first go. Cosy crime is, anyway, a misnomer; the best examples are deadly serious, as Christie indicated when she characterised murder as the worst crime imaginable. Nothing could be further from the whimsical musings of the Thursday Murder Club, which constantly pivot away from anything resembling strong emotions. Osman's characters are a Famous Four whose jolly japes could (and probably will) fill several more volumes.

## Queen Agatha still reigns

### CRIME FICTION

Patricia Nicol

**Marple: Twelve New Stories**  
HarperCollins  
£20 pp384

Agatha Christie plots often hinge on a character having reinvented themselves. In this canny publishing wheeze, it is the queen of crime's doughtiest detective, Jane Marple, who has been reimagined by a dozen contemporary writers. Some rules have been adhered to: all the stories are set within the half-century in which Christie deployed her sharp-eyed sleuth: 1927-76. Intriguingly, although all the invited authors are women penning genre fiction, only

half are linked to crime: Lucy Foley, Elly Griffiths, Dreda Say Mitchell, Val McDermid, teenage crime queen Karen M McManus and Ruth Ware. While the historical author Kate Mosse and the fantasy writer Leigh Bardugo reimagine crime in a classic village setting, many draw on their own fiction landscapes: Jean Kwok sends Miss Marple to Hong Kong; Natalie Haynes takes Homeric inspiration; Mitchell injects Caribbean flavour and Naomi Alderman has our tweedy heroine witnessing murder at high table at an Oxford college.

This collection feels half treat, half carpet-bag curio aimed at the Christmas gift market. There are stories, like McDermid's, where the whodunnit detailing feels sluggish. Bardugo, Foley, Griffiths, Mosse and Ware employ atmospheric scene-setting and persuasive characterisation. None, however, matches Christie for twisty plotting. These are enjoyable tribute stories, but the queen of crime retains her crown.





**Getting away** A man-made island in Dubai. Right: an image of a space colony in Jeff Bezos's Blue Horizon project



# Where the rich will go to survive

The super-wealthy are already making plans to save themselves when the apocalypse finally arrives

## SOCIETY

Daisy Goodwin

### Survival of the Richest

Escape Fantasies of the Tech Billionaires  
by Douglas Rushkoff  
Scribe £20 pp224

The opening of this non-fiction study is like the beginning of a movie about a dystopian future. The hero, a left-leaning media theorist called Douglas Rushkoff, is asked to give a talk on the future of technology by a think tank composed of

sundry billionaires somewhere in the desert. Rushkoff is a man of principle, but the fee is handsome, and after all he is in the business of communication.

A limo meets him at the airport and drives him three hours into the desert – he wonders why a gathering for billionaires would be located so far from an airport, until he sees the Gulfstreams circling the private landing strip next to the resort. He is prepped to give a talk to a lecture hall, complete with PowerPoint, about where he thinks the future of technology is

heading, but finds himself in a room with five youthful and unnamed billionaires in hoodies who want him to answer their questions.

These start innocuously enough. Bitcoin or Ethereum? Is quantum computing really a thing? But then it becomes clear that the real question that haunts these men (and they are all men) is where would they be better off come the looming apocalypse – New Zealand or Alaska?

One head of a brokerage firm asks Rushkoff how he can ensure the loyalty of the security team in his underground bunker after what he calls the “event”. The guys moot some possible solutions – have the team wear disciplinary head collars in return for food and shelter; put all the food in two-factor authentication safes; replace men with robots, if the technology could be developed in time. This is when our hero realises that for the cross-section of the 1 per cent in front of him, there is no thought of saving the world, only of saving themselves.

For these supposedly adult men, their only thought in the face of global meltdown is escape (for fellow billionaire Elon Musk, it’s Mars). Rushkoff tries suggesting to these rich guys that maybe a way of ensuring a security guard’s future loyalty would be to shell out for their daughter’s bat mitzvah now? This suggestion is met with blank incomprehension. Emotional ties cannot be

quantified in binary terms, and are therefore unreliable.

Rushkoff’s book *Survival of the Richest* is a wake-up call to those of us without underground bunkers or peninsulas in New Zealand to take note of where the 0.001 per cent think the world is heading. He describes what he calls the “mindset” of these privileged few as “based in a staunchly atheistic and materialist scientism, a faith in technology to solve problems, an adherence to biases of digital code, an understanding of human relationships as market phenomena, a fear of nature and of women, a need to see one’s contributions as utterly unique innovations without precedent, and an urge to neutralise the unknown by dominating and de-animating it”.

One of the more alarming moments in what is definitely a scary book is when Rushkoff interviews JC Cole, who is developing two safe haven farms, self-sustaining organic enclaves where the wealthy can retreat after the “event”. When Rushkoff asks him how the people on the farms will protect themselves from those less fortunate, Cole shakes his

head: “Honestly, I am less concerned about gangs with guns than the woman at the end of the driveway holding a baby and asking for food.” He pauses, and sighs. “I don’t want to be in that moral dilemma.”

Rushkoff argues that Covid was to some extent a dress rehearsal for the “event”. The US super-wealthy migrated during the pandemic to places such as Costa Rica with low infection rates and good internet access, they hired tutors for their children and they generally opted out of the collective misery.

Rushkoff bemoans the transformation of the internet from a place of idealistic endeavour to an entirely market-driven behemoth. He became famous for saying that the users were “the product” of internet companies such as Google and Facebook; now he says we are actually the “workforce”, as we scroll, click, like and engage with our feeds. The product, of course, is the stock, which must climb eternally in what Rushkoff calls the permanent erection of market capitalism.

This book is a digital version of Dickens’s *Hard Times*, full of hoodie-clad Gradgrinds failing to see the value of the messiness in humanity. Perhaps like Gradgrind they will only see the error of their ways as their children grow up. One of Musk’s children has already disowned him. There will always be teenagers, even on Mars. 🐼

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**Daniel Kidane** Sun Poem  
**Frank Bridge** Enter Spring  
**Edward Elgar** Symphony No 2  
Sunday 11 September 7pm

**HALF SIX FIX:** Music by Ravel, Berlioz, Debussy and Takemitsu  
Wednesday 14 September 6.30pm

**Maurice Ravel** La valse  
**Jean Sibelius** Symphony No 7  
**Béla Bartók** Miraculous Mandarin  
Thursday 15 September 7pm

**Jean Sibelius** Tapiola  
**Anton Bruckner** Symphony No 7  
Sunday 18 September 7pm

**barbican**

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# The birth of body-shaming

If you crave a buff body, blame the Greeks and Romans, who despised old age and invented exercise to stave it off

## HISTORY

Christopher Hart

**Exposed** The Greek and Roman Body  
by Caroline Vout  
Profile £25 pp424

*Exposed* is a book that aims to “take the dust covers off the Greeks and Romans”, as the author puts it. Their surviving books of philosophy and marble statues can make them seem a little abstract and bloodless. Caroline Vout aims to revivify them in all their flesh-and-blood vigour and messiness – and show how they strived to “control” or “perfect” that messiness.

Two thousand years or more after they ceased being worshipped, we still talk of “a young Adonis” or a “pocket Venus”. The perfect body of classical statuary remains a touchstone of western beauty, whether the Apollo Belvedere or the Venus de Milo. These images are so perfect that they are “numinous, and terrifying”, says Vout, a professor of Classics at Cambridge: “Purveyors of purity as virtue.”

Ordinary Greeks and Romans did not, needless to say, look like this any more than we do. Our similarities to our forebears are always intriguing – not least our dissatisfaction with our actual, less-than-divine appearance, and our attempts, sometimes valiant, sometimes pitiful, to look more like a god or celeb.

Illustrated here is a terracotta statuette of Isis-Aphrodite, from the 2nd century AD, that is almost comically contemporary and more than a little porny, with her stark naked but for her make-up, ankle bracelet and “Miss World sash”. Just like her devotees back then, we are simultaneously anxious about our shape, our health and ageing, slightly appalled by our bodily functions and

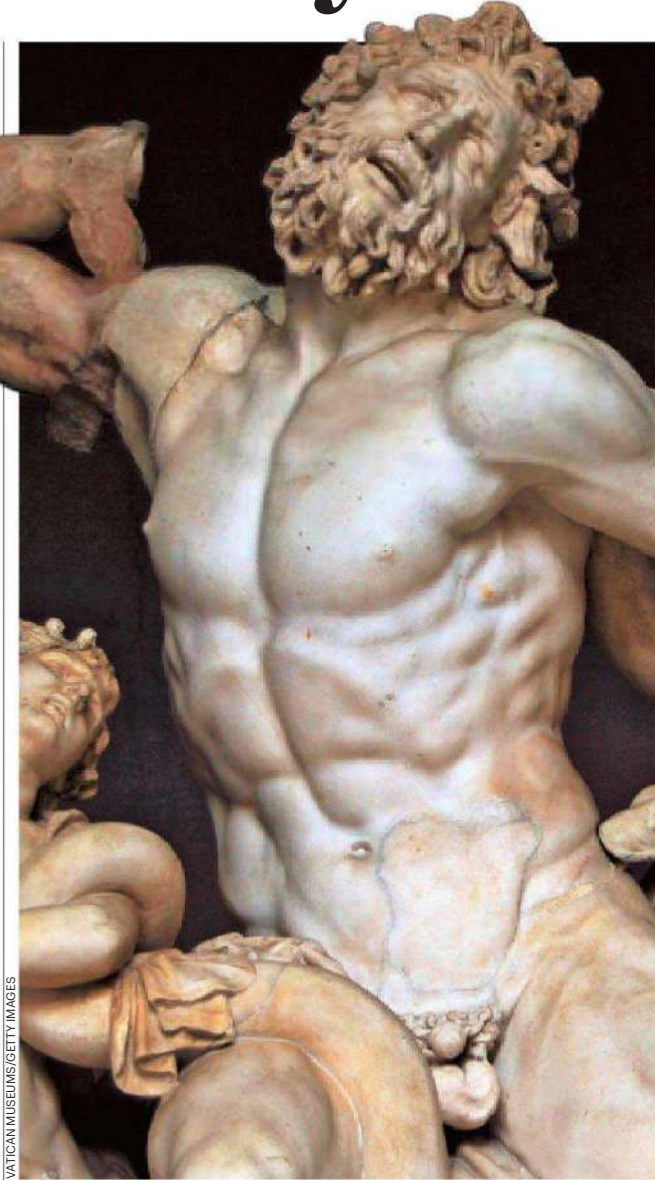
exudations, and full of longing to be, if not perfect, then at least a lot more buff than we actually are.

To that end, the Greeks invented the gym – and filled it with more of those pesky, body-shaming statues, as bodybuilders today work out in “temples of iron” plastered with posters of Pietro Boselli, or Arnie in his prime. A good example of a “classical Arnie” might be the Farnese Hercules, although I disagree with Vout that the ancients would have found this “ludicrous”; not a stimulus to your bench press, but a lesson “in the dangers of gymorexia”. Really?

The abiding wisdom of Greece and Rome, however, is still summed up in that phrase “nothing to excess”. Pursue the body beautiful, by all means, but don’t neglect the mind – and remember that you’re going to die anyway. The obsessive gymgoer who knew nothing of philosophy or literature was a contemptible figure, only half a man, as was the weedy bookworm.

They also admired the golden mean in physique: not the wrestler (too chunky) or the distance runner (too skinny), but the pentathlete, the ancient pentathlon meaning a 200m sprint, javelin, discus, long jump and wrestling. Galen, the early physician, recommended ball games as the best exercise of all, and there’s a marvellous illustration here of a stone tablet from the 4th century BC showing a Greek youth practising keepie-up. The great classical ideal of a calm and well-educated mind in a well-honed body, *mens sana in corpore sano*, remains an appealing one to this day.

In general you wanted to keep away from doctors, fond of lancing and cupping, “to



VATICAN MUSEUMS/GETTY IMAGES

**Looking divine** Laocoon and his Sons, 25BC

“**Isis-Aphrodite is comically contemporary – and porny**

draw out impurities”, although in fairness they did know about wine, vinegar and zinc oxide for cleaning wounds and fighting infections, all of which would have been effective. Records surviving (miraculously) from Vindolanda on Hadrian’s Wall reveal that of the 296 soldiers

stationed there, 15 were sick, six were wounded and ten had “sore eyes”. One of the biggest problems in the ancient world, as in much of the developing world today, was conjunctivitis.

As for women, most (male) philosophers and physicians agreed that while men were firm and dry, women were “wetter and colder, as well as weaker, saggier, spongier, thirstier”. This could lead to all sorts of problems. If an ardent girl or young woman went too long “without an injection of sperm”, for instance, this would dry out her womb, which would then “set off around the body in search of humidity”. Hence that uniquely female affliction, hysteria, derived from the

word “uterus”. The best thing to do with young virgins was to marry them off pronto, so they would be kept at home to have babies, only going outside veiled and chaperoned.

Men too had to be shaped and toned, though, by exercise and education, public or military service, and simply being outdoors. Being too pale-skinned was unmanly. Even babies had to be “firmed”. “One treatment was to sprinkle them with salt mixed with honey, olive oil, barley extract or the juice of fenugreek... it is hard today not to think of basting a chicken.”

At the other end of life, the Greeks and Romans really had nothing good to say about old age, and certainly only the young could be attractive. As Juvenal put it in his usual caustic way, old age meant a “deformed and foul face... deformed hide in place of skin, hanging jowls”. The best the old could hope for was to be wise.

One big drawback to this often entertaining read is the schoolmarmish tone of some of the authorial commentary. Greece and Rome were “misogynist, warmongering, slave-owning”; Rome suffered from “machismo”; at another point Vout tut tuts at some “nasty gender stereotyping”. Professor Vout will keep offering her judgments on whether such-and-such a Greek custom or Roman practice was a Good Thing or a Bad Thing. It’s intrusive and unnecessary.

However, the illustrations are superb throughout, and the book is packed with fascinating facts and original insights – as well as a tale from Herodotus about the folly of judging other cultures (or epochs) by our own. Darius of Persia once asked some Greeks if they would eat the bodies of their dead fathers. They were horrified at the thought. He then asked some “Kallatai” from India if they would cremate their fathers. They too were horrified. “They normally ate their dead. Doing otherwise risked offending their gods.”

When in Rome... 🇮🇹



# When Soho really roared

Sex, drugs and mystery collide in Kate Atkinson's rollicking 1920s epic

## FICTION

Lucy Atkins

**Shrines of Gaiety**

by Kate Atkinson

Doubleday £20 pp448

Kate Atkinson suffers from having written two superb and innovative historical novels: *Life after Life* (2013) and *A God in Ruins* (2015), both of which won Costa book awards and were shortlisted for the Women's Prize for Fiction. *Life after Life*, particularly, is a book that I press, weeping, into the hands of anyone who asks me for a "really good read". After these two, even a decent follow-up could seem like a bit of a letdown; bring on *Transcription* (2018), a Second World War spy novel that, oddly, felt a little flat. Atkinson then returned to her literary comfort zone with the bleak and engrossing crime novel *Big Sky* (2019), her fifth to feature the detective Jackson Brodie. And now she

returns to the past with *Shrines of Gaiety*, a colourful novel that is hard to classify – part crime, part family drama, part romance – set in the fleshpots of 1920s Soho.

Atkinson has a plotter's mind: intricate, clever, satisfying. *Shrines of Gaiety* is all about life's tangled lines, intersections and synchronicities. At the centre sits "Old Ma Coker", Nellie, who in the opening pages is released from jail. Outside the prison a curious crowd has gathered, including a bevy of "beauties" regularly seen in the pages of *Tatler* magazine. Nellie, it turns out, is the proprietor of five successful London nightclubs, establishments that usually only just about manage to stay on the right side of the law. She runs these with some of her six adult children. The family empire, however, is under siege; old adversaries – gangsters and corrupt police officers alike – want to usurp the clubs, and Nellie must fight to retain control.



**Fleshpots** Kate Atkinson nails her characters instantly

Enter Detective Chief Inspector John Frobisher, investigating the disappearance of two young

**“Few writers other than Dickens could match it**

dancers from York, with some help from Gwendolen Kelling, a kind and clever librarian, also from York. Several mysteries intersect, a love triangle develops, there are family complexities, misunderstandings and lies, and of course there's a romp through the Roaring Twenties, where people medicate coughs with cocaine and shoot up morphine to relax.

Some of the plot points rely heavily on coincidence, but Atkinson largely gets away with this because her

characters provide such a brilliant distraction. There is a huge cast, and few writers could pull off the sense that each individual is unique and real. Atkinson conjures character in an instant, and her trick – although that's far too mundane a word for it – is to nail them the moment they step in. Nellie's first appearance, outside the prison, is "lacklustre", but the beauties wrap her in a fur coat as if "to smother a fire"; her exhaustion, her power and the respect she commands are right there.

Nellie's second son, Ramsey, holds her flowers like "a blushing bride"; he will turn out to be self-obsessed, camp and rather gauche. The first thing we know about trustworthy Frobisher, meanwhile, is that he is honest and literary, a "books man", while Nellie's eldest son, Niven, is an "enigma", dabbling in cars and horse racing. "He hardly drank at all, yet he went to a lot of parties. He had no time for people who went to parties."

The kind of fine-tuned observation that can produce an enormous, vibrant cast really is quite something and I can think of few writers other than Dickens who can match it. *Shrines of Gaiety* isn't quite *Life after Life* – nothing is – but it is engrossing and fun, powered by subtle skills; a book that will linger in the heart more than the mind. **C**

## A Pulitzer winner's emotional and soul-searching sequel

## FICTION

Houman Barekat

**Less Is Lost**

by Andrew Sean Greer

Little, Brown £16.99 pp272

Andrew Sean Greer is best known for his 2018 Pulitzer prizewinning comic novel, *Less*, about a gay, middle-aged author – the eponymous Arthur Less – who embarks on a global literary tour while trying to get over a heartbreak. In this sequel he serves up another tale of itinerant soul searching. His protagonist, unexpectedly plunged into debt and in urgent need of funds, agrees to interview a

fedora-wearing science fiction author for a glossy magazine. He travels from San Francisco to Palm Springs, where the two men discuss whether writing books is "worth it" ("It's like asking a dung beetle if it's worth it... a dung beetle is good at only one thing") before Less wends his way to his native Delaware for another literary engagement – and an emotional encounter with his estranged father – via several Southern states.

Along the way he reflects on a love life characterised by "clumsiness of the heart": we learn that he spent many years with a much older man, before getting together with a younger one; the novel is narrated from the point of view of the

latter, which lends a tender poignancy to these passages. Much of the humour is of the fish-out-of-water variety as Less – travelling in a camper van, accompanied by a pug called Dolly – struggles to acclimatise to Southern mores and gets into practical pickles. He misplaces food supplies on a boat trip ("the smell of cannibalism was in the air") and contrives to flood a hippy commune after tampering with its water system; there is a silent but strangely pregnant encounter with a moose.

*Less Is Lost* has something of the homely charm of a corny old sitcom. It is smartly written, with some amusing descriptions – we meet a theatre troupe leader with

"the frantic myomorphic expression of a squirrel in search of a nut" – and touching epiphanies, such as when Less remembers attending his first musical: "Why did no one tell me life could be this?... instead of Puritan hard work and failed get-rich schemes... life could be sequins and song." His brand of agreeable helplessness – wallowing in self-pity while just about keeping us on side with wry wit – recalls the plaintive laconicism of the American humourist David Sedaris.

Early in the novel, Less is upbraided by a Czech author for his bicoastal myopia: "Your problem is you are all New Yorkers... New York, Boston, San Francisco. You

don't bother with the rest of the country... No wonder you keep rewriting Fitzgerald!" It's a criticism often levelled at the US literati, to which these educative peregrinations – Less goes camping in Texas, visits a dive bar in Alabama and tours a cotton mill in Georgia – form a rejoinder of sorts. Greer's narrator pays sentimental tribute to the improbable but enduring wholeness of the United States, likening it to an awkward marriage of convenience. And yet the charge of myopia still stands, because this is a picture-postcard America, whose true historic destiny is to provide a scenic backdrop to one man's personal therapeutic journey. **C**



# TV & RADIO



## PICK OF THE WEEK THE GREAT BRITISH BAKE OFF

Tuesday, C4, 8pm

As the nation heads into a winter in which switching on the oven to make a sponge will cost as much as a small car, this year's **Great British Bake Off** has an unusually melancholy air. From the first episode, though, there are signs that some of the excesses of recent series have been reined in: Cake Week is marked not by ridiculous sculptures inspired by the bakers' favourite 19th-century parliamentary reforms, but straightforward sandwich cakes and model houses. Noel Fielding and Matt Lucas also seem a little more relaxed this time out. The new intake are

engaging, too. From the traditionally awful opening skit onwards, it all feels oddly reassuring, a few crumbs of comfort to shore up against the long nights.  
*Victoria Segal*

### THE CONTESTANTS

Those falling under the eye of Paul Hollywood and Prue Leith this year are  
*Back row, left-right:*  
**James** 25, bekilted horror-loving Glaswegian scientist  
**Sandro** 30, a nanny and fitness fanatic from east London  
**Maxy** 29, Swedish Londoner, masters degree in architecture

**Kevin** 33, musician and music teacher from Lanarkshire  
**Abdul** 29, lindyhopping Saudi-born software engineer

*Front row, left to right:*  
**Carole** 59, rainbow-haired gardening guru from Dorset  
**Maisam** 18, design student from Libya via Manchester  
**Syabira** 32, Malaysian gamer and cardiovascular researcher  
**Rebs** 23, business student and dog lover from Co Antrim  
**Dawn** 60, IT manager and artist from Bedfordshire  
**Will** 45, London charity boss; fears "the tipsy posh woman"  
**Janusz** 34, Polish sausage-dog-owning Brighton teacher's PA

## FILM OF THE WEEK

### A Beautiful Day In The Neighbourhood

Monday, Film4, 9pm

Comforting and gently optimistic, Marielle Heller's 2019 film feels appropriate for the moment. Tom Hanks plays Mr Rogers, American TV's most genial star, who is being profiled by a cynical journalist (Matthew Rhys). Prior knowledge of Rogers is not required to be moved by Lloyd's transformation in the presence of Rogers' kindness.

## DEMAND PICK OF THE WEEK

### Sunset Song

BBC iPlayer

Lewis Grassic Gibbon's 1932 novel about a young woman growing up in a Kincardineshire farming family has been subject to numerous adaptations, but this 1971 BBC Scotland production is definitive. That is thanks to a performance of wild complexity by Vivien Heilbron as the quietly headstrong, independent protagonist, Chris Guthrie.

## RADIO PICK OF THE WEEK

### The Boy In The Woods

Mon-Fri, Radio 4, 1.45pm

Winifred Robinson has been following the case of murdered six-year-old Rikki Naeve for more than 20 years and here examines the case, asking why the vulnerable boy's murder took so long to solve and how his mother Ruth was jailed for seven years for child cruelty.



**6.00 Breakfast** The latest reports.  
**7.40 Match Of The Day** Action. (R)  
**9.00 Sunday With Laura Kuenssberg** Interviews.  
**10.00 Great North Run** Live coverage of the world's biggest half-marathon, taking place from Newcastle upon Tyne to South Shields.  
**12.10 News; Weather** Headlines.  
**12.15 MOTD — Women's Super League** Live coverage of the top-flight match between London rivals Chelsea and West Ham United, at Stamford Bridge. Kickoff at 12.30.  
**2.35 Songs Of Praise** Worship.  
**3.10 Points Of View** Opinions.  
**3.25 Lifeline** Charity appeal.  
**3.35 Escape To The Country** (R)  
**4.35 Attenborough's Wonder Of Song** Seven recordings of animals singing. (R)  
**5.35 News; Weather** Reports.  
**6.00 Countryfile** Anita Rani catches up with the fashion designer Patrick Grant to find out more about the field to fashion movement.  
**7.00 Antiques Roadshow** Fiona Bruce presents the show from Sefton Park Palm House in Liverpool, where finds include a Ming vase, which was bought in a charity shop.  
**8.00 CHOICE Frozen Planet II** In a new run, David Attenborough explores frozen regions around the world, beginning in Antarctica, where Emperor Penguin chicks are left by their parents as spring begins. (See Critics' choice)  
**9.00 The Capture** Carey thinks someone has got to Isaac when he backs out of their shared plan, and as she closes in on the truth, it takes her into greater danger than ever before. (Series 2, ep 5)  
**10.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**10.30 Match Of The Day 2** Mark Chapman presents action from the latest fixtures, including Arsenal v Everton, West Ham United v Newcastle United and Crystal Palace v Manchester United.  
**11.35 The Women's Football Show** Action from the opening matches of the season in the Super League.  
**12.15-6.00 Joins BBC News**

**SCOTLAND 11.35 SportsScene —** Premiership Highlights. Hearts v St Mirren. **12.35** The Women's Football Show. The opening matches of the Super League season. **1.15** News.

**6.05 Gardeners' World** Advice. (R)  
**7.05 Countryfile** Rural reports. (R)  
**8.00 Beechgrove** Gardening. (R)  
**8.30 Weatherman Walking** In Ceredigion. (Last in series, R)  
**9.00 Coast Great Guides:** East Anglia. Insights. (R)  
**10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites**  
**11.30 Nadiya's Everyday Baking** An easy afternoon tea. (R)  
**12.00 Nigel Slater's Simple Suppers** A pasta dish. (R)  
**12.10 Great North Run** Further live coverage of the world's biggest half-marathon.  
**2.00 Super League Playoff Highlights** Action from the elimination play-offs.  
**3.00 The Hotel People** The Europa hotel gets a facelift. (3/8, R)  
**4.00 Saving Lives At Sea** A crew searches for three fishermen whose boat has capsized. (R)  
**5.00 Great North Run Highlights** Gabby Logan presents action from the half-marathon.  
**6.00 Golf — PGA Championship** Highlights of the final day of the event, held at Wentworth.  
**7.00 Cricket — Today At The Test** Action from day four of the series-concluding third Test between England and South Africa, held at the Oval.  
**8.00 CHOICE Stolen — Catching The Art Thieves** New series. Documentary featuring first-hand accounts of Europe's most daring art heists, starting with the theft of JMW Turner's *Shade and Darkness* and *Light and Colour* in 1994. (1/3; see Critics' choice)  
**9.00 CHOICE Simon Reeve's South America** In a new series, the adventurer sets off on a journey through the continent, beginning in the little-visited northeast, taking in Guyana, Venezuela, Suriname and French Guiana. (See Critics' choice)  
**10.00 How To With John Wilson** Exploring people's ability to remember things.  
**10.25 Stewart Lee — Tornado** Stand-up performance filmed at York Theatre Royal.  
**11.25 FILM: Out Of Blue** Stars Patricia Clarkson and Toby Jones. A New Orleans cop investigates the murder of a black hole expert found shot dead in her observatory. Disappointing. (2018, 15)  
**1.10 The Hotel People** (Signed, R)  
**2.10-3.10 Days That Shook The BBC** Insights. (Signed, R)

**6.00 Children's Shows** Fun.  
**8.25 News; Weather** Reports.  
**8.30 Katie Piper's Breakfast Show**  
**9.25 Love Your Weekend** Chat.  
**11.20 English Football League Highlights** Recent action. (R)  
**1.20 News; Weather** Update.  
**1.30 Racing** Coverage of day two of the Irish Champions Weekend at the Curragh.  
**4.30 Ninja Warrior — Race For Glory** Obstacle course. (R)  
**5.30 Tipping Point — Best Ever Finals** Compilation of some of the show's most dramatic endgames. (R)  
**6.00 News; Weather** Update.  
**6.20 Regional News** Headlines.  
**6.30 Celebrity Lingo** Quiz show, presented by RuPaul.  
**7.30 Gino's Italy — Like Mamma Used To Make** Gino D'Acampo visits Procida off the coast of Naples, an island dwarfed by Capri and Ischia, but with a big reputation when it comes to food.  
**8.00 Ridley** Dark secrets buried for decades start to emerge when the former detective agrees to help a jazz singer find her brother, who has been missing for 40 years. (3/4)  
**10.00 News; Weather** Update.  
**10.15 Bradley & Barney Walsh — Breaking Dad** The actor and his son embark a 3,000-mile journey through Europe, beginning in Croatia. (R)  
**10.40 Premiership Rugby Union Highlights** Action from the opening round of fixtures.  
**11.40 Against The Odds** Guillem Balague and Seb Hutchinson interview the midfielder Cesc Fabregas. (R)  
**12.40 Teleshopping** Goods.  
**3.00 Motorsport UK** Action. (R)  
**3.50 Unwind** Daily relaxation.  
**5.05 Save Money — Lose Weight** Ways to control portion sizes. (R) **5.35-6.00 Save Money — Lose Weight** The final two diets. (Last in series, R)



Kicking off: Jade Jones (C4, 9pm)

**6.00 The King Of Queens** (R)  
**7.15 Everybody Loves Raymond** Family comedy series. (R)  
**8.30 The Simpsons** Cartoon. (R)  
**9.30 Sunday Brunch** Food and chat, with guests Harry Hill, Melvin Odoom and Matt Goss.  
**12.30 Jamie's One-Pan Wonders** Traybaked salmon, tomato fritters, and roasted rolled pork with a risotto. (R)  
**1.00 The Simpsons** Cartoon. (R)  
**3.05 FILM: Transformers — The Last Knight** Stars Mark Wahlberg and Anthony Hopkins. The shape-changing robots must find an ancient artefact from Arthurian legend to protect the Earth from their own creator. Laboured sequel. (2017, 12)  
**6.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**6.30 Formula 1** Highlights of the Italian Grand Prix, the 16th round of the season, held at Autodromo Nazionale di Monza, one of the fastest tracks on the calendar.  
**9.00 CHOICE Celebrity SAS — Who Dares Wins** The celebrity recruits face a series of trust exercises; and when some of the group lose equipment and fail to keep their kit dry, they all have to endure a punishment. (See Critics' choice)  
**10.00 Gogglebox** The armchair critics share their opinions on what they have been watching during the week, with cameras capturing their instant reactions. (R)  
**11.00 CHOICE The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey** Stars Martin Freeman, James Nesbitt, Cate Blanchett, Ken Stott, Ian McKellen and Richard Armitage. Unassuming hobbit Bilbo Baggins is recruited to join a band of dwarves on a quest to reclaim their lost homeland, which has been taken over by a dragon. (2012, 12; see Film choice)  
**2.05 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA** The chef gives advice to a couple who own a Danish restaurant in Miami, Florida. (R)  
**2.50 Couples Come Dine With Me** Three couples in north London try to outdo one another by hosting the perfect dinner party. (R)  
**3.45 Hollyoaks** Chester soap. (R)  
**5.45-6.10 Drawers Off** (R)

**6.00 Milkshake!** Fun for children.  
**10.00 The Smurfs** Cartoon. (R)  
**10.15 Spongebob** Animation. (R)  
**10.25 Entertainment News** Gossip.  
**10.30 NFL End Zone** Action from the latest matches in the NFL.  
**11.00 Friends** American sitcom. (R)  
**12.35 FILM: The Poseidon Adventure** Stars Gene Hackman. Terrified survivors race against time to escape from a capsized luxury cruise liner before it sinks. Epic disaster movie. (1972, PG)  
**3.10 FILM: Close Encounters Of The Third Kind** Stars Richard Dreyfuss and Teri Garr. A man's obsession with UFOs drives his family away and leads him to a mountain where aliens are about to make contact. Brilliant sci-fi drama. (1977, PG)  
**6.00 Happy Campers — The Caravan Park** Cameras follow events at two West Country holiday camps — Tencreek in Looe, Cornwall, and Holiday Resort Unity near Weston-super-Mare. (R)  
**7.00 Billionaire Resorts — On Holiday With The Super Rich** A look at the Datai resort on the tropical Malaysian island of Langkawi, where guests enjoy the height of luxury in the middle of a remote 10-million-year-old rainforest.  
**8.00 Million Pound Motorhomes** A Bath coachbuilder shows how he is using a Land Rover to create a one-of-a-kind motorhome from the engine up; and a woman shows off her custom-made horsebox motorhome business.  
**9.00 Rich House, Poor House** A Lincolnshire racehorse breeder swaps lives for a week with a Scunthorpe single mum, who works four jobs to keep afloat and provide for her 16-year-old son. (Last in series)  
**10.05 Bargain-Loving Brits In The Sun** Cameras focus on owners who run two bars in Fuengirola, Costa del Sol. (R)  
**10.55 80s Greatest Pop Videos:** 1982. A visual celebration of the best music of the year. (R)  
**12.55 Entertainment News** Gossip.  
**1.00 The Leo Vegas Live Casino Show** Interactive gambling.  
**3.00 Entertainment News** Gossip.  
**3.05 Britain's Favourite Cereal** (R)  
**4.45 Amazing Cakes & Bakes** (R)  
**5.30-6.00 Children's Shows** Fun.

## VARIATIONS

**ITV WALES 7.30** The Mart. The final market before the onset of the lambing season **BBC1 WALES 3.35** Money For Nothing **4.05** Our Lives: Hell's Belles. **4.35** Iolo — A Wild Life **5.05** Wales' Home Of The Year. Properties in the southwest **S4C 6.00** Bing **6.10** Twt **6.20** Do Re Mi Dona **6.35** Amser Maith Maith Yn Ol **6.50** Fferm Fach **7.00** Cei Bach **7.15** Guto Gwningen **7.30** Sbarc **7.45** Digbi Draig **7.55** Sigldigwt **8.10** Octonots **8.25** Cacamwnici **8.40** Blero Yn Mynd I Ocido **8.50** Penblwyddi Cyw

**9.00** Garddio A Mwy **9.30** Welsh Whisperer — Ni'n Teithio Nawl! **10.00** Y Fets **11.00** Dechrau Canu Dechrau Canmol **12.00** Yr Wythnos **12.30** Cwpan Rygbi 7 Bob Ochor Y Byd **1.00** Rygbi Pawb **1.45** Gwesty Aduniad **2.45** Cynefin **3.45** Trefi Gwyllt Iolo **4.15** Cheer Am Byth **4.40** Lorient **5.40** Cefn Gwlad **6.10** Pobol Y Cwm Omniaws **7.15** Newyddion A Chwaraeon **7.30** Dechrau Canu Dechrau Canmol. Nia Roberts meets Arfon Wyn — one of Wales' most successful composers

**8.00** Prosiect Pum Mil. New series. Emma Walford and Trystan Ellis-Morris help with efforts to refurbish Theatr Fach Llangejni **9.00** Terfysg Yn Y Bae. The 1919 Cardiff race riots **10.00** Cwpan Rygbi 7 Bob Ochor Y Byd. Highlights from this year's World Rugby Sevens Cup competition in South Africa **10.30** Y Babell Len A Mwy. The literature tent and the Llannerch stage at the Ceredigion National Eisteddfod **11.30-12.05** Codi Pac. Geraint Hardy visits Welshpool

## YOU SAY

**The Suspect** (ITV): very suspect.  
**Paul Burgess**

While I enjoyed Adrian Dunbar's latest character in **Ridley** (ITV), I think that Dennis Potter's 1987 drama **The Singing Detective** was rather more original and with better tunes.  
**Peter Sergeant**

Wouldn't it have been more topical if he'd have danced instead?  
**Anthony Green**



## CRITICS' CHOICE

**Frozen Planet II**  
(BBC1, 8pm)

It has been more than a decade since the first series of these astonishing documentaries and David Attenborough has devoted his life to garnering awards while demonstrating the wonders of nature to an apparently appreciative audience. And what have we done in return? Brought it to the brink of destruction. Surveying Earth from above for the opening sequence, the national treasure appears disappointed rather than angry. It's not him we have let down, but ourselves. Heart-stopping footage in sharpest blues and whites, the BBC's finest editors, a Hans Zimmer score: witness the wonders of these frozen wildernesses "while there is still time to save them".

Helen Stewart



Disappearing world: a baby emperor penguin takes to the water (BBC1, 8pm)

Renaissance royal  
with forked tongue**The Serpent Queen**  
(Starzplay)

Catherine de' Medici held a grip on France for much of the second half of the 16th century, as queen, then as puppeteer of her various sons when they took the throne. She earned the nickname "the Serpent Queen" for her apparent love of poisoning and plotting against everyone. Her life is turned into a glossy, slightly trashy series, in which Samantha Morton, as Catherine, has a tremendous time being vile to everyone before her – though Charles Dance gives her a good run as a very bitchy pope. The fourth-wall breaking and occasional modern slang are needless affectations, but they don't detract from a witty script and the fun of watching awful people stabbing each other in the back.

Olly Richards

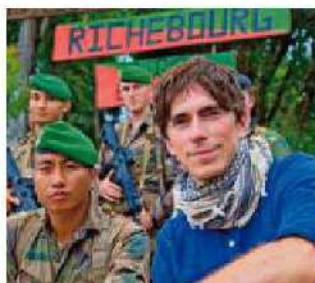
**Simon Reeve's South America**  
(BBC2, 9pm)

*North America*, the first half of Reeve's pan-American odyssey, aired in 2019, so his second half has been long-awaited. It starts with a trip tonight around the continent's northern tip, which he says took place just before Covid arrived. Taking in Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana, it lives up to his promise of extraordinary landscapes, surprising people and extreme contrasts. Green themes are also prominent – especially the threats to rainforests and wildlife – but there are also encounters with fleeing migrants, residents in a gold-mining settlement, a Foreign Legion patrol and rocket launchpad controllers.

John Dugdale

**Stolen — Catching The Art Thieves**  
(BBC2, 8pm)

Two Turner paintings were stolen from the Schirn Kunsthalle in Frankfurt on July 28, 1994, while on loan from the Tate. Unfolding like an episode of *Spooks*, this high-tension documentary tells the story of the theft, the insurance and the subsequent international intrigue.



Reeve in French Guiana (BBC2, 9pm)

**Celebrity SAS — Who Dares Wins**  
(C4, 9pm)

Time for the anti-*Bake Off*: the hard-to-watch reality show in which physical and psychological dismantling of celebrity "recruits" is par for the assault course. Tonight, they have to survive "delivery into a conflict zone" from a helicopter. Somebody's going home in an ambulance.

**This Is Amapiano**  
(BBC3, 11.35pm)

Kutloano Nhlapo introduces the South African musical phenomenon amapiano, a mix of house, kwaito, jazz and hip hop that has exploded across Africa and beyond. Alongside interviews with artists and DJs, this guide includes tips on dance moves for newcomers.

Victoria Segal

## FILM CHOICE

**The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey**  
(C4, 11pm)

Peter Jackson's second Middle Earth trilogy was always going to suffer when compared with his majestic *Lord of the Rings* series, but there is still much to like about this 2012 film. Martin Freeman is well cast as Bilbo Baggins, a reluctant hero roped into helping a group of dwarves take back their mountain home from a gold-loving dragon. Like *Lord of the Rings*, it is an incredibly handsome production, lovingly crafted down to the smallest detail. Yes, it's slow – the modest story really didn't need three films – but it's a cosy watch.

**The 355** (Sky Movies Premiere, 12.10pm/9.45pm)

Jessica Chastain heads this female-led spy caper, with Penélope Cruz, Lupita Nyong'o, Diane Kruger and Fan Bingbing. A grab-bag of Bond, *Mission: Impossible* and *Bourne*, it is spirited nonsense lifted by strong cast chemistry. Dir: Simon Kinberg (2022)

Olly Richards



In her sights: Chastain (SCP, 9.45pm)

## ON DEMAND

**Mo** (Netflix)

Mohammed Amer's semi-autobiographical series about the life of an undocumented Palestinian immigrant living in Texas is, without a doubt, one of the warmest, wittiest and most heartfelt comedy dramas streaming. Created by Amer with comedian Ramy Youssef

(himself the star of All4's semi-autobiographical comedy-drama *Ramy*) the eight-episode series has at its heart an almost neo-realist plotline: Mo's quest for a proper job and his own legal status as an American citizen. Neither worthy nor sentimental, at its core this is a show about love, friendship and family, with a naturalistic style that can effortlessly blindsides you with its gentle power.

**First Tuesday** (Britbox)

Between 1983 and 1993, Yorkshire TV was responsible for one of the finest ever documentary series. Notable editions include 1987's *Falklands War – The Untold Story* and *The Wigan Hold* (a 1988 film about a wrestling gym), but a perfect start point would be 1993's *The Secret of Happiness*, a profile of the eccentric Devonian wildlife presenter Johnny Kingdom.

**The Terror** (BBC iPlayer)

Based on Dan Simmons's 2007 novel, this fantastical 2018 retelling of Sir John Franklin's 1845 Arctic expedition has aged well. Beyond its fine cast (Jared Harris, Tobias Menzies, Ciarán Hinds) and period detail, here was horror that knew exactly how to create a mood of inexorable creeping dread with next to no cheap jump scares. A future classic. *Andrew Male*

**Page One — A Year Inside The New York Times** (Mubi)

One of the most revered and criticised newspapers in the world is the subject of Andrew Rossi's enthralling documentary. Released in 2011, it follows the newsroom of *The New York Times* as it grapples with surviving in an increasingly digital age without abandoning its standards. Most of the debates are still relevant now. *OR*



## BBC3

- 7.00pm EastEnders** Walford soap.  
**8.00 Squad Goals — Dorking 'Til I Die** New series. Calum Best takes over the reins of Dorking Wanderers Ladies football club. (S3, ep 1) **8.30 Squad Goals — Dorking 'Til I Die** Calum is tested in his debut role as chairman.  
**9.00 RuPaul's Drag Race Down Under** The queens must transform a family of men.  
**9.55 Corey Baker's Dance Race**  
**10.00 Avicii — True Stories** The story of Swedish DJ.  
**11.35 CHOICE This Is Amapiano** A look at one of the fastest-growing new music genres. (See Critics' choice)  
**12.05 As 9pm**  
**1.00 As 8pm**  
**1.30 As 8.30pm**  
**2.00 Sky High Club — Scotland And Beyond** Reality series.  
**2.30 Dubai Hustle** (Series 2, ep 1)  
**3.00-4.00 The Rap Game UK**

## DRAMA

- 11.55am Mansfield Park** Sir Thomas returns from Antigua. (4/6) **1.05 Mansfield Park** Henry confesses his love for Fanny. **2.15 Mansfield Park** Fanny flees to Plymouth.  
**3.25 Catherine Cookson's The Girl**  
**6.40 Call The Midwife** Drama.  
**8.00 Sister Boniface Mysteries** A contestant in a pageant is found drowned. (10/10)  
**9.00 Rebus** Crime thriller, starring Ken Stott. An intriguing clue is left at the scene of an doctor's murder (S2, ep 1)  
**10.35 The Last Detective** Davies investigates a 20-year-old unsolved murder. (S1, ep 1)  
**12.45 Taggart** A mutilated body is found in a vacant warehouse. (S27, ep 1) **1.45 Taggart** The leader of a union is shot dead.  
**2.50-4.00 Les Misérables** Drama, with Dominic West. (1/6)

## BBC4

- 7.00pm Being Beethoven** The composer's return to the town of Heiligenstadt. (2/3)  
**8.00 BBC Proms Highlights** from this year's concert season, including a tribute to Aretha Franklin and a performance of the Ukrainian national anthem by the Ukrainian Freedom Orchestra.  
**9.40 The Great Mountain Sheep Gather** Following a shepherd's journey from summit to valley as he leads his sheep off Scafell Pike.  
**11.20 Secrets Of The Museum** A glimpse at some of the two million items not on public display at the V&A museum.  
**12.20 The Normans** The expansion and unchecked ambition of the Norman empire. (1/3)  
**1.20 The Last Battle Of The Vikings** The influence of the Vikings in Scotland.  
**2.20-3.20 Being Beethoven** (2/3)

## SKYARTS

- 5.25pm California Dreamin' — The Songs Of The Mamas And The Papas** Documentary charting the success of the Californian pop group.  
**6.45 Live From The Artists Den** The singer-songwriter James Bay performs at Webster Hall in Manhattan, playing tracks including Let It Go, Hold Back the River and Bad.  
**8.00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents:** There Was An Old Woman. A couple plan a robbery. **8.30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents:** Whodunit. A dead man relives his last day on Earth.  
**9.00 I Am Alfred Hitchcock** Profile of the film-maker.  
**10.45 Discovering Queen** Friends and fans reflect on the band's career and music.  
**11.45-12.45 The Directors** The life and work of John Singleton.

## ITV2

- 6.15pm FILM: Wonder Woman** Stars Gal Gadot and Chris Pine. An Amazon princess leaves her isolated island during the First World War, aiming to bring the conflict to an end. Electrifying fantasy. (2017, 12; includes FYI Daily)  
**9.00 Family Guy** Peter and Quagmire mimic each other. (Series 20, ep 5) **9.30 Family Guy** Three traditional fairy tales, Quahog-style. (Series 12, ep 10) **10.00 Family Guy** Brian's estranged son turns up. **10.30 Family Guy** Peter discovers that he has a twin. **11.00 Family Guy** Quagmire becomes a sex slave.  
**11.30 American Dad!** Stan reluctantly spends time at the library. (Series 17, ep 14) **11.55-12.25 American Dad!** Stan infiltrates a group of renegades. (Series 12, ep 5)

## ITV4

- 10.45am Cycling** Live coverage from the eighth and final stage of the Tour of Britain.  
**3.15 Made In Britain** Insights.  
**4.50 FILM: Rooster Cogburn** Stars John Wayne and Katharine Hepburn. The hard-drinking former marshal helps a preacher's stubborn daughter avenge her father's murder. Average Western. (1975, U; includes FYI Daily)  
**7.00 Silverstone Classic** Action from the classic car meet.  
**8.00 Premiership Rugby Union Highlights** Action from the opening round of fixtures.  
**9.00 Cycling** The Tour of Britain.  
**10.00 River Monsters**  
**11.00 Rugby World Cup 7s**  
**1.35 Minder** Comedy drama.  
**2.35 Unwind** Daily relaxation.  
**3.00-6.00 Teleshopping** Goods.

## ITV3

- 6.00 That's My Boy** Sitcom.  
**6.40 Emmerdale** Omnibus.  
**9.20 FILM: That Riviera Touch** Stars Morecambe and Wise. Comedy. (1966, PG)  
**11.20 The Ruth Rendell Mysteries**  
**1.35 Poirot** A ghostly murderer strikes. (Series 3, ep 6) **2.45 Poirot** The prime minister is kidnapped. (Series 2, ep 8)  
**4.00 Poirot** The sleuth investigates a bizarre series of deaths. (Series 4, ep 1)  
**6.15 Wycliffe** The murder of a Penzance bookshop owner leads the detective to uncover a family feud.  
**8.00 Long Lost Family** A man looks for the son he put up for adoption over 50 years ago.  
**9.00 Joanna Lumley's Home Sweet Home — Travels In My Own Land** The actress travels from north Wales to the West Country, ending in her home city of London. (3/3)  
**10.00 Endeavour** The discovery of a 2,000-year-old body provides Morse and Thursday with fresh clues in a five-year-old case. (S4, ep 4)  
**11.50 Poirot** An aristocrat's wife is stabbed to death. (Series 11, ep 4) **1.55 Poirot** Hastings' new hobby helps the sleuth solve a mystery. (S3, ep 5)  
**3.05 Emmerdale** Omnibus.  
**5.45-6.00 Unwind** Relaxation.



Main man: Calum Best (BBC3, 8pm)

## E4

- 4.55pm Lego Masters Australia**  
**6.15 Wipeout USA** People take on an obstacle course.  
**7.15 FILM: Bride Wars** Stars Kate Hudson and Anne Hathaway. Two lifelong friends become bitter rivals when their weddings are scheduled to take place on the same day and at the same venue. Enjoyable comedy. (2009, 12)  
**9.00 Married At First Sight UK — Unveiled** AJ Odudu dissects the week's drama.  
**10.00 Rick And Morty** The duo are stranded in space. (S6, ep 1)  
**10.35 Harley Quinn** New series. Harley accidentally kidnaps the head of the Suicide Squad. (Series 3, ep 1)  
**11.05 The Inbetweeners** Simon's principles are put to the test. (Series 3, ep 3) **11.40-12.10 The Inbetweeners** The gang visits a university.

## MORE4

- 5.55pm Come Dine With Me** Dinner parties in Eastbourne.  
**8.00 The Dog House** A Labrador arrives and soon meets a seasoned dog owner — but an injury may prevent her from taking him in.  
**9.00 I Survived 9/11** Documentary about the survivors of the World Trade Center attacks, including a lawyer who has had post-traumatic stress disorder since.  
**10.00 9/11 — The Falling Man** Documentary about a man who jumped from the World Trade Center during the September 11 terrorist attacks, and the photographer who captured the image on film.  
**11.35-12.40 Emergency Helicopter Medics** Helicopters help a woman who has come off a motorbike.

## FILMS

## SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

**12.10pm CHOICE** The 355. Stars Sebastian Stan and Jessica Chastain. (2022, 12; see Film choice) **2.30** Last Looks (2021, 15) **4.40** Even Me Belong In Heaven (2021, PG) **6.15** Monstrous. A terrifying new horror awaits a woman and her seven-year-old son when they flee her abusive ex-husband and try to settle into a new life. (2022, 15) **8.00** Stowaway. A tenacious party girl fights to survive after three thieves commandeer her luxury yacht. (2022, 15) **9.45** The 355. Details as 12.10pm. **12.05** Belfast (2021, 12) **2.05** Last Looks (2021, 15) **4.15-6.05** Monstrous. Details as 6.15pm.

## SKY CINEMA THRILLER

**1.30pm** Stillwater (2021, 15) **4.00** 3 Days To Kill (2014, 12) **6.00** Confessions Of A Dangerous Mind. A TV producer is hired by the CIA. (2002, 15) **8.00** Lord Of War. A criminal gains access to a vast supply of Soviet weaponry and becomes one of the world's most dangerous arms dealers. (2005, 15) **10.05** Gone Girl. A man reports his wife's disappearance, but ends up under scrutiny. (2014, 18) **12.35-2.10** The Desperate Hour (2021, 12)

## SKY CINEMA GREATS

**6.20am** 2 Guns. Undercover agents become fugitives. (2013, 15) **8.25** The Manchurian Candidate. A war veteran is drawn into a conspiracy. (2004, 15) **10.50** The Little Things. A deputy sheriff becomes embroiled in the search for a serial killer. (2021, 15) **1.10** Philadelphia. A gay lawyer hires a homophobic rival when he is fired after contracting Aids. (1993, 12) **3.30** 2 Guns. As 6.20am. **5.35** The Manchurian Candidate. As 8.25am. **8.00** Philadelphia. As 1.10pm. **10.10** American Gangster. The lives of a 1970s drug kingpin and the cop who tried to bring him down. (2007, 18) **12.50** The Little Things. As 10.50am. **3.10** The Manchurian Candidate. As 8.25am. **5.35-6.35** Sky Cinema Preview

## SKY CINEMA SELECT

**4.00pm** Shaun Of The Dead (2004, 15) **5.50** Hot Fuzz. A policeman moves to a country village, where so-called accidents arouse his suspicions. (2007, 15) **8.00** The World's End. Five friends stumble on a threat to the human race. (2013, 15) **10.00** Baby Driver. A getaway driver finds himself taking part in a heist doomed to fail. (2017, 15) **12.00** Last Night In Soho (2021, 18) **2.05** Shaun Of The Dead (2004, 15) **3.50-6.00** Hot Fuzz. As 5.50pm.

## FILM4

**11.00am** Carry On Constable. The police take on recruits. (1960, U) **12.45** Bee Movie. Animated comedy. (2007, U) **2.35** The Adventures Of Tintin (2011, PG) **4.45** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (2014, 12) **6.50** The Eagle. A Roman centurion and his British slave try to recover the standard of a lost legion. (2011, 12) **9.00** Alita — Battle Angel. A cyborg in the 26th century is repaired by a technician who has a secret. (2019, 12) **11.25** Little Fockers. A father of twins invites his family to his kids' birthday party. (2010, 12) **1.20-3.35** I Origins. Drama. (2014, 15)

## TALKING PICTURES TV

**2.20pm** Forever And A Day. An English household suffers through a series of challenges from 1804 to the dark days of the Second World War. (1943, PG) **4.30** British Rails Are Long And Fast **5.00** The Footage Detectives **6.00** The Saint **7.00** The Browning Version. A schoolmaster faces the realisation that his life has been a failure. (1951, U) **9.00** The Onedin Line **10.00** Fraulein. A woman in Nazi Germany helps an American POW to escape, and faces a series of struggles after the war is over. (1958, PG) **11.45-12.50** The Heritage Chart Show With Mike Read

## ENTERTAINMENT

## GOLD

**7.10am** Citizen Khan **8.20** Only Fools And Horses **4.30** Death On The Tyne **6.30** Only Fools And Horses **8.20** Dad's Army **9.00** Billy Connolly Does... **10.00** Inside No 9 **10.40** The Royle Family **11.20** Ghosts **12.35** Peep Show **1.45** Roger & Val Have Just Got In **3.00-4.00** Billy Connolly Does...

## SKY COMEDY

**6.00pm** Modern Family **7.00** The US Office **8.00** Young Rock **9.00** Bloods **9.30** Curb Your Enthusiasm. Double bill **10.45** The Rehearsal **11.20** The Trip To Greece **12.30** Girls **4.00-5.00** Miracle Workers — Dark Ages

## SKY WITNESS

**6.00pm** Nothing To Declare **7.00** Caught On Dashcam **8.00** Bull. The team's defence strategy for a client is compromised **9.00** Blue Bloods. Frank is at odds with his friend Archbishop Kearns when he says the NYPD arrested the wrong man for a murder **10.00** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. Velasco tries to find three girls who trafficked from his hometown **11.00** Law & Order: Organized Crime. Stabler must come to terms with his father's legacy

**12.00** New Amsterdam **1.00** Blue Bloods **2.00** Caught On Dashcam **3.00-6.00** Nothing To Declare

## W

**5.40pm** My Family **7.00** 999 Rescue Squad **8.00** Inside The Operating Theatre **9.00** Killer Women **10.00** Louis Theroux: Life On The Edge **11.10** Louis Theroux: Miami Mega Jail **1.10** One Born Every Minute Australia **2.00-3.00** Inside The Ambulance

## 5 STAR

**6.00pm** Police Interceptors **9.00** FILM: An Officer And A Gentleman. Stars Richard Gere and Debra Winger **11.35** FILM: Erin Brockovich. Stars Julia Roberts and Albert Finney **2.10** Killer At The Crime Scene **3.10** Judge Judy **3.55-4.00** Entertainment News

## 5 USA

**6.00pm** Columbo **9.00** Lucifer. Two episodes **11.00** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit **3.35-4.00** Criminals — Caught On Camera

## COMEDY CENTRAL

**8.00am** Friends **9.00** FILM: American Pie — Reunion. Stars Jason Biggs and Alyson Hannigan. Comedy sequel **11.10** Greatest Ever Movie Blunders. Mistakes in movies **1.10** The Ren & Stimpy Show



# TALKTV

- 6.00 Cristo** Morning roundup.  
**7.00 David Bull** A look at the biggest stories of the day.  
**10.00 Richard Tice** Discussion.  
**1.00 Peter Cardwell** Roundup of the latest from parliament.  
**4.00 Kevin O'Sullivan** Debate on the latest developments.  
**7.00 The Sunday Night Club** Jonny Gould reflects on the sporting weekend and more.  
**10.00 The Unexplained** Howard Hughes gets to the bottom of more of life's mysteries.  
**12.00 Petrie Hosken** Bringing the very best and latest news stories overnight.  
**4.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored Best Of** The presenter presents his verdict on the week's global events.  
**5.00-6.00 James Max** An initial insight into the day's stories.  
*Available on Sky 526; Freeview 237; Virgin 627; Freesat 217; YouTube, connected TVs and smart devices*

# SKYMAX

- 6.00pm Grimm** A Wesen goes on a killing spree, but only preys on worthy opponents that it will be a challenge to fight. (Series 3, ep 12, R)  
**7.00 A League Of Their Own** With guests Aaron Ramsdale, Michael Sheen, Alex Brooker and Emily Attack. (R)  
**8.00 A Discovery Of Witches** Diana and Matthew are shocked by the reappearance of Jack. (Series 3, ep 2, R)  
**9.00 Swat** Hicks witnesses the assassination of an old friend and the team races to find the shooter. (Series 5, ep 18)  
**10.00 NCIS: Los Angeles** An employee of the navy's missile defence programme is murdered. (S13, ep 18)  
**11.00-12.00 An Idiot Abroad** Karl Pilkington watches whales in Alaska. (R)

- 2.10** The Ricky Gervais Show **3.30** South Park **4.15-5.00** Friends

## YESTERDAY

- 6.00am** Great Continental Railway Journeys **8.00** World War Weird **12.00** Bangers & Cash — Restoring Classics **4.00** Bangers And Cash. Back-to-back editions **8.00** 'Allo 'Allo! Classic comedy **10.05** Abandoned Engineering **11.05-1.05** Bangers And Cash

## DAVE

- 6.00pm** Whose Line Is It Anyway? USA **7.00** Special Ops — Crime Squad UK **8.00** QI XL. With panellists Sandi Toksvig, Aisling Bea and Susan Calman **9.00** Have I Got 2021 News For You. A look back at the news of 2021 **10.00** Late Night Mash. Topical insights and fake news **11.00** Live At The Apollo. With Tanyalee Davis, Hal Cruttenden and Josh Widdicombe **12.00** As Yet Untitled **1.00** QI XL **2.00** Have I Got 2021 News For You **3.00-4.00** Live At The Apollo

# FACTUAL

## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

- 6.00pm** 9/11 — One Day In America **8.00** 9/11 — Missing Carmen Rivera. The search for a woman missing since the World Trade Center attacks

# SKYATLANTIC

- 6.00 Fish Town** Documentary.  
**8.00 Boardwalk Empire**  
**1.30 The Sopranos** Tony suffers hallucinations. (S2, ep 13)  
**2.35 The Sopranos** The FBI intensifies its surveillance of Tony and his family. **3.40 The Sopranos** Livia passes away. **4.50 The Sopranos** Anthony Jr becomes a star. **5.55 The Sopranos** Dr Melfi is raped.  
**7.00 Munich Games** A Mossad agent works with a German counterpart to prevent a terrorist attack. (German, Hebrew, Arabic and English with subtitles; 1/6) **8.00 Munich Games** The investigation yields a lead.  
**9.00 House Of The Dragon** Game of Thrones prequel. (3/10)  
**10.05 Landscapers** Christopher opens up about his past. (3/4)  
**11.05 The Gilded Age** An unfortunate development finds George's new rail station under threat. (3/9)  
**12.10 I Hate Suzie** Privacy is an issue, as Suzie finds hers invaded once again. (3/8)  
**12.55 House Of The Dragon** Game of Thrones prequel. (4/10)  
**3.05 In Treatment** Paul discovers more about Walter's relationship with Natalie. (S2, ep 14) **3.35 In Treatment** Paul spends the night with Tammy.  
**4.05-6.00 Urban Secrets** Insights.



Silent running (Sky Docs, 9pm)

- 9.00** Bin Laden's Spy In America. The terrorist leader's right-hand man **11.00** 9/11 Firehouse. The fire station standing as a memorial to the terror attacks **12.00** 9/11 — Inside The Pentagon **1.00-2.00** 9/11 — Rescue Cops

## DISCOVERY

- 6.00pm** Undercover Billionaire. Glenn invests all of his money into Underdog BBQ's big debut **7.00** Lone Star Law. A warden arrives at a domestic dispute to discover a participant is wanted by the law **8.00** Cold Blooded Peruvian Predator — Expedition Mungo. Capturing Peru's yacumama snake on film **9.00** Mysteries Of The Deep. Jeremy Wade explores a shipwreck that could hold stolen Nazi treasure **10.00** Deadliest Catch **11.00** Wheeler Dealers. Marc 'Elvis' Priestley convinces Mike Brewer to buy a bargain VW Golf convertible **12.00-4.00** 100 Days Wild

## PBS AMERICA

- 4.30pm** The Vietnam War. Triple bill **10.15-12.00** Pelosi's Power. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's life and legacy

## SKY DOCUMENTARIES

- 6.00am** Discovering Julie Christie **7.00** Discovering Carole Lombard **8.00** The Directors **10.00** Well Groomed **11.45** Very Ralph **1.45** Premier League Legends

# SPORT

## SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT

- 6.00am** News **7.00** Goals On Sunday **8.30** **LIVE** DP World Tour Golf: The BMW PGA championship **10.15** **LIVE** Test Cricket: England v South Africa **1.00** **LIVE** Super Sunday: West Ham United v Newcastle United. Kickoff is at 2.00 **4.00** **LIVE** Super Sunday: Crystal Palace v Manchester United. Kickoff at 4.30 **6.45** **LIVE** WSL: Manchester City v Arsenal. Kickoff at 7.00 **9.15** **LIVE** NFL: Minnesota Vikings v Green Bay Packers. Kickoff at 9.25 **12.30** NBC's FNIA **1.15** **LIVE** NFL: Dallas Cowboys v Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Kickoff at 1.20 **4.30-6.00** News

## EUROSPORT 1

- 9.40am** Vuelta A España **10.00** Cycling. The Tour of Romania **10.30** News **10.40** **LIVE** Porsche Supercup: The Italian Grand Prix **11.45** Vuelta A España **12.30** **LIVE** Cycling. The Challenge by La Vuelta **2.00** **LIVE** Cycling. The Grand Prix de Fourmies **4.00** **LIVE** Vuelta A España **7.45** Cycling. The Challenge by La Vuelta **8.45** Cycling. The Paris-Roubaix **9.00** Triathlon — Super League **10.00** Vuelta A España **11.00** Vuelta A España — The Breakaway **11.30** Cycling. The Challenge by La Vuelta **12.30** Cycling. The Tour of Romania **1.00** Speedway Grand Prix **2.00** Cycling. The Challenge by La Vuelta **3.00** Vuelta A España **4.00** Vuelta A España — The Breakaway **4.30** Cycling. The Tour of Romania **5.00-6.00** British Speedway

## BT SPORT 1

- 7.00am** **LIVE** AFLW: Richmond v Hawthorn **9.00** WWE Raw Highlights **10.00** WWE Smackdown Highlights **11.00** ESPN FC **11.30** **LIVE** Serie A: Atalanta v Cremonese. Kickoff at 11.30 **1.30** National League Highlights **2.00** **LIVE** Premiership Rugby Union: Gloucester v Wasps. Kickoff at 3.00 **5.15** Rugby Tonight **6.00** Joe Cole Cast **6.30** Uefa Champions League Goals Reload **6.45** Uefa Europa League Goals Reload **7.00** Golazzo Live **7.45** **LIVE** Serie A: Juventus v Salernitana. Kickoff at 7.45 **10.00** Down The Clubhouse **11.00** Joe Cole Cast **11.30** **LIVE** Hero CPL: Saint Lucia Kings v St Kitts & Nevis Patriots **3.45** Uefa Europa League Goals Reload **4.00** European Le Mans Series Highlights **5.00** European Rally Championship Highlights **5.30-6.00** World Rally Championship

- 2.15** Clint Eastwood — A Life In Film **3.55** The Last Movie Stars **5.00** The Real Charlie Chaplin. A look at the life and work of the silent star **7.15** The Kid Stays In The Picture. Documentary profile of the film producer Robert Evans **9.00** The Loneliest Whale — The Search For 52. A rare whale that calls out at a frequency unrecognised by other whales **11.00-1.00** Dave Not Coming Back. Two divers' efforts to retrieve a dead body from a cave

## SKY NATURE

- 6.00am** The Wild Wild East **8.30** Brazil Untamed **11.30** Micro Monsters **12.30** Monkeys — An Amazing Animal Family **3.30** The Wild Wild East **4.00** Hotspots — The Last Hope **7.00** Patagonia. The area's ancient woodlands, which are home to miraculous creatures **8.00** Shark Squad **9.00** In For The Kill. Footage of one of the most dramatic moments in nature — a predator claiming its prey **10.00** Deadly Australians **11.00-12.00** Patagonia

## SMITHSONIAN

- 6.00am** Aerial America **1.00** Inside The Factory **2.00** How Did They Build That? **4.00** Searching For Secrets **8.00** Combat Ships **10.00** Inside The Factory. The production of biscuits **11.00-12.00** Combat Ships

# RADIO



## Cerys Matthews

**BBC 6 Music, 10am** Matthews, pictured, presents poetry and interviews live from the BBC's Contains Strong Language festival in Birmingham. In a new season of **Moira Stuart Meets** (Classic FM, 9pm), the guest is trumpeter Alison Balsom. Moya Lothian-McLean presents **Human Resources** (podcast) exploring Britain's involvement in the slave trade and how it touches every part of the nation. *Clair Woodward*

## RADIO 4

- 10.00** The Archers (R) **10.45-7.00** (LW) Test Cricket: England v South Africa. Commentary on day four of the third Test at the Oval **11.15** The Reunion. Kirsty Wark meets people connected with Ukraine's Maidan Uprising of 2013 **12.00** News **12.01** (LW) Shipping **12.04** Mark Steel's In Town (R) **12.32** The Food Programme. The Hairy Bikers discuss their culinary journey **1.00** The World This Weekend **1.30** The Coming Storm (R) **2.00** Gardeners' Question Time (R) **2.45** The Bear Next Door (R) **3.00** Drama: North And South, by Elizabeth Gaskell **4.00** Open Book. Ian McEwan discusses his new book, Lessons **4.30** Contains Strong Language Live from Birmingham **5.00** File On 4 (R) **5.40** Profile (R) **5.54** Shipping **6.00** News **6.15** Pick Of The Week **7.00** The Archers **7.15** Ed Reardon's Week (R) **7.45** Hulda's Cafe. Volcano, by Tiffany Murray **8.00** More Or Less (R) **8.30** Last Word (R) **9.00** Money Box (R) **9.25** Appeal (R) **9.30** Princess (R) **10.00** The Westminster Hour **11.00** Loose Ends (R) **11.30** Something Understood (R) **12.00** News **12.15** Thinking Allowed (R) **12.45** Bells (R) **12.48** Shipping **1.00** As World Service

## TIMES RADIO

- 6.00** Chloe Tilley And Calum Macdonald With Times Radio Breakfast **10.00** Sunday Morning With Kate McCann And Adam Boulton **1.00** Alexis Conran **4.00** Ayesha Hazarika **7.00** Highlights From Times Radio **8.00** Stories Of Our Times. The Times's daily podcast **8.30** Matt Chorley **9.00** Highlights From Times Radio **10.00** Kait Borsay. Late-night conversation **1.00** Highlights From Times Radio

*To get in touch with the Times Radio studio, text TIMES plus your message to 87222. Texts cost your standard message charge.*

## RADIO 4 EXTRA

- 10.00** Desert Island Discs **10.45** David Attenborough's Life Stories **11.00** Radiolab **12.00** Poetry Extra **12.30** Thanks A Lot, Milton Jones! **1.00** Adrian Mole: The Wilderness Years Omnibus **2.10** Inheritance Tracks **2.20** The Frederica Quartet **3.30** The Parrot Sketch **4.00** September Tide **5.00** Poetry Extra **5.30** Thanks A Lot, Milton Jones! **6.00** The Door In The Wall **6.45** The Mermaid And The Rat Catcher **7.00** Radiolab **8.00** September Tide **9.00** Desert Island Discs **9.45** David Attenborough's Life Stories **10.00** Thanks A Lot, Milton Jones! **10.30** Can't Tell Nathan Caton Nothing **10.45** Mastering The Universe **11.00** The Masterson Inheritance **11.30-12.00** At Home With The Snails

## LBC

- 10.00** Leading Britain's Conversation **1.00** Sangita Myska **4.00** Leading Britain's Conversation **7.00** Rachel Johnson **10.00** Nick Abbot **1.00** Darren Adam **4.00** Steve Allen

## RADIO 3

- 9.00** Sunday Morning **12.00** Private Passions **1.00** Proms Chamber Music. Another chance to hear Monday's recital, as Trio Gaspard played piano trios by Haydn and Smyth (R) **2.00** The Early Music Show (R) **3.00** Choral Evensong (R) **4.00** Jazz Record Requests **5.00** The Listening Service. Links between music and magic **5.30** Words And Music. Miscommunication, the multiple meanings of words and translation (R) **6.45** Sunday Feature. Michele Roberts assesses the reputation of the French poet Baudelaire 200 years after his birth (R) **7.30** Drama On 3: Folk. Nell Leyshon's play inspired by Cecil Sharp's efforts to gather as many folk songs as he could before they were lost in the new industrialised and literate music world of the 1900s (R) **9.00** Record Review Extra. A chance to hear the recordings discussed yesterday **11.00** The Voice Of The Vibraphone **12.00** Classical Fix (R) **12.30** Through The Night

## CLASSIC FM

- 10.00** John Brunning **1.00** Karthi Gnanasegaram **4.00** John Humphrys **7.00** Charlotte Hawkins **9.00** Moira Stuart Meets. A new run begins with the trumpeter Alison Balsom **10.00** Myleene Klass **1.00** Karthi Gnanasegaram **4.00** Lucy Coward

## RADIO 2

- 9.00** Steve Wright **11.00** Alex Jones **1.00** Elaine Page **3.00** Sounds Of The 70s **5.00** Rob Beckett **7.00** Tony Blackburn **8.00** Sunday Night Is Music Night (R) **10.00** Radio 2 Unwinds **12.00** OJ Borg **3.00** Alternative Sounds Of The 90s **4.00** Nikki Chapman

## VIRGIN RADIO

- 9.30** The Graham Norton Show **12.30** Steve Denyer **4.00** Bam **7.00** Sunday Special **8.00** Olivia Jones **12.00** Sean Goldsmith **4.00** Steve Denyer

## TALKSPORT

- 9.00** Jonny Owen And Friends **12.00** Sunday Session: Chelsea Women v West Ham United Women. Kickoff 12.30 **5.00** Boot Room **8.00** A Talksport Special **9.00** Trans Europe Express **12.00** A Talksport Special **1.00** Extra Time

- RADIO 4** FM 92.4-94.6 MHz  
LW 198 kHz (1515m), MW 720 kHz  
**LBC** FM 97.3 MHz  
**RADIO 3** FM 90.2-92.4 MHz  
**CLASSIC FM** FM 100-102 MHz  
**RADIO 2** FM 88-90.2 MHz  
**TALKSPORT** MW 1053, 1071, 1089, 1107 kHz



- 6.00 Breakfast** The latest reports.  
**9.15 Morning Live** Magazine.  
**10.00 Dom Does America** (R)  
**10.45 Claimed And Shamed** (R)  
**11.15 Homes Under The Hammer** Properties at auction. (R)  
**12.15 Bargain Hunt** Curios.  
**1.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**1.45 Doctors** Sid is surprised to get a visit from an old flame.  
**2.15 Money For Nothing** Items.  
**3.00 Escape To The Country** (R)  
**3.45 The Bidding Room** (R)  
**4.30 Antiques Road Trip** In the first of a new run, Raj Bisram and Irita Marriott take a ride around Suffolk and Norfolk.  
**5.15 Pointless** Unorthodox quiz.  
**6.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**6.30 Regional News** Update.  
**7.00 The One Show** Features.  
**7.30 EastEnders** Phil and Kat's wedding day arrives but a surprise guest leaves the bride in a state of shock.  
**8.00 Panorama** Investigating the smugglers who get people into Britain and finds out what the government's plan to send asylum seekers to Rwanda means for those who are attempting the journey.  
**8.30 We Are England** Following workers at two Mini factories in Swindon and Oxford that produce nearly 1,000 cars a day, including generations of the same family.  
**9.00 The Capture** With Holliday Grainger. Carey gets the opportunity to expose the truth, but a moral obstacle prevents her whistleblowing; and Isaac's family is deeply impacted by his choices. (Last in series)  
**10.10 News; Weather** Reports.  
**10.50 Have I Got A Bit More News For You** Charlie Brooker is guest host of this extended episode, with panellists Helen Lewis and Ivo Graham. (R)  
**11.35 Ellie & Natasia** Ellie White and Natasia Demetriou present the 21st-century Guide to Sex. (3/6, R) **11.50 Ellie & Natasia** Characters in this episode include a pair of vaping dominatrixes. (R)  
**12.05 The Hit List** Music quiz. (R)  
**12.55-6.00 Joins BBC News**

**SCOTLAND 6.30** Reporting Scotland; Weather. **8.00** Inside Central Station. **10.50** Panorama. **11.20** Have I Got A Bit More News For You. **12.05** SportsScene — SWPL Highlights. **12.50** Ellie & Natasia. **1.05** Ellie & Natasia. **1.25** BBC News.

- 6.30 Money For Nothing** (R)  
**7.15 The Bidding Room** (R)  
**8.00 Antiques Roadshow** From near Belfast. (Signed, R)  
**9.00 News; Weather** Headlines.  
**12.15 Politics Live** Discussion.  
**1.00 Chase The Case** (R)  
**1.45 Eggheads** Team quiz. (R)  
**2.15 Glorious Gardens From Above** In Yorkshire. (R)  
**3.00 Flipping Profit** (R)  
**3.45 Wanted — A Simple Life** (R)  
**4.30 Murder, Mystery And My Family** The 1884 murder of a policeman in Co Durham. (R)  
**5.15 Flog It!** At Southwell Minster, near Nottingham. (R)  
**6.00 House Of Games** With Rob Deering, Katya Jones, Jayne Middlemiss and Phil Tufnell.  
**6.30 Unbeatable** General-knowledge quiz show.  
**7.00 Cricket — Today At The Test** Action from the final day of the series-concluding third Test between England and South Africa at the Oval.  
**8.00 Only Connect** Victoria Coren Mitchell hosts another first-round match as the Peacocks take on Mothers Ruined, who must find what connects four things that appear utterly random.  
**8.30 University Challenge** In the third of the academic quiz's first-round matches, four students from the London School of Economics pit their wits against a team from University College, Oxford.  
**9.00 CHOICE The Boys From Brazil — Rise Of The Bolsonaros** A look at Jair Bolsonaro's campaign for the 2018 presidential election, when he targeted the ever-growing number of Christian evangelicals in the country. (2/3; see Critics' choice)  
**10.00 Frankie Boyle's Tour Of Scotland** The comedian travels from Oban to Glasgow, meeting a comic-book writer in Bannockburn. (Last in series, R)  
**10.30 Newsnight** The day's events.  
**11.15 CHOICE The Aftermath** Stars Keira Knightley and Jason Clarke. In post-war Hamburg, tensions arise for a British colonel and his wife after they move into a house with a German widower. (2019, 15; see Film choice)  
**12.55 Countryfile** (Signed, R)  
**1.55-2.55 Celebrity Masterchef** Contest. (Signed, R)

- 6.00 Good Morning Britain**  
**9.00 Lorraine** Lifestyle chat.  
**10.00 This Morning** Features.  
**12.30 Loose Women** Debate.  
**1.30 News; Weather** Reports.  
**2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal** David Dickinson and his team of experts assess items in Middlesbrough.  
**3.00 Tenable** New series. Five family members from Blackpool take on the Tower.  
**4.00 Tipping Point** Gameshow, hosted by Ben Shephard.  
**5.00 The Chase** Quiz show.  
**6.00 Regional News** Update.  
**6.30 News; Weather** Reports.  
**7.30 Emmerdale** Kim is shocked to learn Hazel has been involved in a car accident; and having returned from the police station, Naomi worries she will be facing jail time.  
**8.00 Coronation Street** Leanne walks in to hear Toyah confessing to Spider that she lied to the police; and with Kelly by his side, Aadi tells Dev that they are planning to get married in Gretna Green.  
**9.00 The Suspect** Joe believes there is a pattern to be found amongst all the coincidences and a breakthrough sets him on a new path of investigation; and Ruiz and Devi hit a roadblock. (3/5)  
**10.00 News At Ten** Bulletin.  
**10.45 Police, Camera, Murder** Unprecedented access reveals the critical role of digital forensics in modern murder investigations, beginning with the case of a schoolboy who was found stabbed in the street. (R)  
**11.45 All Elite Wrestling — Dynamite** Hard-hitting action from the world of All Elite Wrestling.  
**1.25 Teleshopping** Goods.  
**3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal** (R)  
**3.50 Unwind** Daily relaxation.  
**5.05-6.00 Tenable** Quiz show. (R)



**Captive: Grainger** (BBC1, 9pm)

- 6.10 Countdown** Gameshow. (R)  
**6.50 3rd Rock From The Sun** (R)  
**7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond** Family comedy series. (R)  
**9.00 Frasier** American sitcom. (R)  
**10.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA** Advice. (R)  
**11.25 News; Weather** Reports.  
**11.30 The Great House Giveaway** In Garforth, Leeds. (R)  
**12.30 Steph's Packed Lunch**  
**2.10 Countdown** Gameshow.  
**3.00 A Place In The Sun** Homes in southern Tenerife. (R)  
**4.00 Chateau DIY** (Series 3, ep 16)  
**5.00 Moneybags** Quiz show.  
**6.00 The Simpsons** Homer meets the actor Mel Gibson. (R)  
**6.30 Hollyoaks** Chester soap. (R)  
**7.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**8.00 Food Unwrapped** Matt Tebbutt unbottles the mystery of wine sulphites and hangovers; and Amanda Byram explores how peas could help to solve the plastic pollution problem.  
**8.30 Jamie's One-Pan Wonders** Jamie Oliver takes midweek meals up a notch, as he prepares a flavour-packed, simple gnocchi supper and giant spicy meatballs full of delicious time-saving cheats.  
**9.00 24 Hours In A&E** A patient with a rare condition is rushed in to St George's in southwest London, struggling to breathe; and a 19-year-old medical student has a growth on her femur.  
**10.00 CHOICE Second Hand For 50 Grand** A fashion model is after a luxury bag to celebrate the birth of her daughter; and a boxer wants to treat himself to a new watch if he wins his next bout. (See Critics' choice)  
**11.05 Naked Attraction** A dog groomer and a self-confessed 'bad girl' seek their perfect partners. (R)  
**12.10 First Dates Hotel** (R)  
**1.05 999 — On The Front Line** Heart-attack cases. (R)  
**1.55 FILM: Manusangada** Stars Rajeev Anand. A member of a lower social caste takes a stand after being forced to carry his father's corpse to an uncertain graveyard. Powerful drama. (2017, 12; Tamil with subtitles)  
**3.35 Grand Designs — The Streets** Property series. (R)  
**4.25 New Life In The Country** (R)  
**5.20-6.10 The Great Home Transformation** (R)

- 6.00 Milkshake!** Fun for children.  
**9.15 Jeremy Vine** Debate.  
**12.45 Holiday Homes In The Sun**  
**1.40 News; Weather** Reports.  
**1.45 Home And Away** Tane tells the bikies that Genevieve is drawing suspicion from the gym members. (R)  
**2.15 Best Friend's Betrayal** Thriller, with Mary Grill. A possessive woman becomes determined to destroy her best friend's new romance with a successful crime writer. (R)  
**4.00 Bargain-Loving Brits In The Sun** A couple who traded in the delights of Essex for a home in a 'pueblo blanco'. (R)  
**5.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**6.00 Cash In The Attic** Items.  
**6.55 News; Weather** Reports.  
**7.00 Police Interceptors** A dangerous driver who has breached a restraining order leads officers on a half-hour, white-knuckle ride across Nottinghamshire. (R)  
**7.55 News; Weather** Reports.  
**8.00 Motorway Cops — Catching Britain's Speeders** A PC makes his way to the scene of a collision on the A6, where a tired young driver has crashed his car into a lamp post; and a PC is on the scene of a crash where a car has come off the road and hit a bridge 60ft above a river.  
**9.00 Can't Eat, Can't Heat — Cost Of Living Debate** Jeremy Vine presents a discussion on the cost of living crisis, putting members of the public face-to-face with those they feel are to blame for their current problems.  
**10.00 Casualty 24/7 — Every Second Counts** Staff prepare resus for a 56-year-old patient who has been found unconscious at home; and a doctor treats an 85-year-old who is struggling for breath and has a racing heart. (R)  
**11.05 999 — Critical Condition** A young woman is admitted to Stoke's Royal University Hospital with life-threatening head injuries sustained in a car accident. (R)  
**12.05 Police Interceptors** (R)  
**1.00 NFL — Monday Night Football:** Seattle Seahawks v Denver Broncos. Live action from the week one match at Lumen Field. Kickoff at 1.15.  
**4.30 Entertainment News** Gossip.  
**4.40 Wildlife SOS** Animals. (R)  
**5.30-6.00 Children's Shows** Fun.

## VARIATIONS

**ITV WALES 10.45** Sharp End **11.15** Gino's Italy — Like Mamma Used To Make **BBC1 NORTH EAST/ NORTH WEST/NORTH 8.30** Villages By The Sea **BBC1 WALES 8.00** Our Lives: We Are Strong Women **8.30** Ruck Stars **10.50** Deepfake Porn — You Could Be Next **11.50** Panorama **12.20** Have I Got A Bit More News For You **1.05** Ellie & Natasia **1.20** Ellie & Natasia **1.35** BBC News **S4C 6.00** Cyw **12.00** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **12.05** Dim Byd I'w Wisgo **12.30** Cwpan Rygbi 7 Bob Ochor Y Byd

**1.00** Sain Ffagan **1.30** Triathlon Para Y Byd, Abertawe **2.00** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **2.05** Prynawn Da **3.00** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **3.05** Y Babell Len A Mwy **4.00** Awr Fawr: Cwylion Bach **4.05** Odo **4.15** Gwdihw **4.30** Sion Y Chef **4.45** Awyr Iach **5.00** Stwnsh: Dennis A Dannedd **5.10** Bwystfil **5.20** Angelo Am Byth **5.30** Kung Fu Panda **5.55** Ffeil **6.00** Codi Hwyl **6.30** Rownd A Rownd **6.57** Newyddion S4C **7.00** Heno **7.30** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **8.00** Sgwrs Dan Y Lloer. With Brett Johns

**8.25** Garddio A Mwy. Meinir Gwilym makes homemade ketchup with her crop of tomatoes **8.55** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **9.00** Cefn Gwlad. Ifan Jones Evans visits farmers Iwan and Eleanor Davies in Denbighshire **9.30** Sgorio. The weekend's football action **10.00** Caeau Cymru. Delving into the history of the fields near Llanllwni **10.30** Y Llinell Las. The work of the North Wales Police Roads Policing Unit **11.00-11.35** Gwyliau Gartref. A visit to the coastal village of Llangrannog

## YOU SAY

Shelée and the Jules Buckley Orchestra tribute to Aretha Franklin (**BBC Proms**): a total joy. Next day, Cynthia Erivo and the BBC Concert Orchestra (BBC2): a cornucopia of delights.  
**Patrick Tracey**

Has the BBC lost its purpose of specific programming? Shouldn't that tribute have been on Radio 1? I turn on Radio 3 for serious music.  
**Stephanie Gladstone**

Send your comments to: [telly@sunday-times.co.uk](mailto:telly@sunday-times.co.uk)



## CRITICS' CHOICE

**Britain's Greatest Obsessions (Sky History, 9pm)**

The gang of celebrities in this series contribute a report apiece on a "uniquely British" obsession, as well as discussing each other's films in seminar-like sections where they all sit around on sofas. Harry Hill's opening investigation of humour ranges from smut to slapstick, sitcoms to silliness, past legends to emerging stars, and features interviews with a good mix of experts and comedians. However, there is too little room for, well, humour and everyone is being very earnest; as a result, it doesn't quite work. Maybe subsequent topics – which include booze, class, pets and the weather – will suit this tricky hybrid format better.

John Dugdale



**Funny peculiar: Harry Hill has a look at what makes Britons laugh (Sky History, 9pm)**

**D'oh! Just ignore the naysayers****The Simpsons (Disney+)**

The "smart" opinion on Matt Groening's sitcom is that the first eight seasons are the best and it has never been quite the same since its 1997 episode *The Principal and the Pauper*, which played around with character in ways fans felt was unforgivable. That view suggests **The Simpsons** has been no good for 25 years. Wrong, and with all episodes available to scroll through on Disney+ there are gems to be found. These include *Saddlesore Galactica* (Season 11), *Skinner's Sense of Snow* (Season 12), *The Book Job* (Season 23) and, most recently, *Halloween of Horror* (Season 27). There are lots of fan sites that have compiled lists of later highlights and scrolling through them is the most fun you can have on a wet autumn weekend.

Andrew Male

**The Boys From Brazil — Rise Of The Bolsonaros (BBC2, 9pm)**

President Jair Bolsonaro's 2018 election campaign is the focus of this film, the underlying horror of his meaner, nastier politics matched by the blazing absurdity of his story. His bid for the presidency was helped by misinformation (claims, for example, that his rival was distributing penis-shaped baby bottles to indoctrinate children). His sons, meanwhile, became embroiled in internecine wrangling over social-media passwords. Homophobia, sexism, Trump parallels: it's a chilling picture of populism made even bleaker by the story of Marielle Franco, a murdered lesbian activist. His opponents' slogan? #NotHim.

Victoria Segal

**Second Hand For 50 Grand (C4, 10pm)**

It's time to learn about bangles, because Danny the influencer would like one for his unusually slim wrist. He's had it on his vision board for a while, along with holidays and spaghetti carbonara. Tonight, the Cartier love bracelet, based on a chastity belt and reliant on a lover to unlock.



**Why me? Ayoade (Dave, 10pm)**

**Ladhood (BBC3, 10pm)**

This week, Liam's work promotion bags him a new account. It's a gambling company but he puts his principles aside and heads out for a drink with the client. Meanwhile, back in the 1990s, a successful Grand National bet has consequences for the lads that not even a Bunga loan can get them out of.

**Question Team (Dave, 10pm)**

Richard Ayoade looks as confused as anyone to be back for a second series of this lacklustre comedy show where contestants, fellow comedians all, write their own question rounds. Tonight, Josh Pugh (world's strongest man), Jo Brand (chocolate) and Thanyia Moore (movies). Moore is a find.

Helen Stewart

## FILM CHOICE

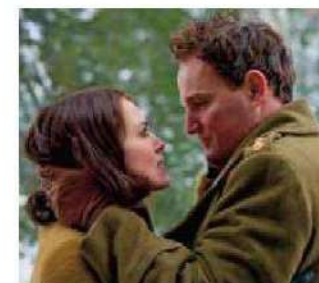
**Vertigo (Film4, 11am)**

It is pointless to argue which is Alfred Hitchcock's best film, but many would make a strong case for this. James Stewart, darkening his nice-guy persona, plays Scottie, a former police detective, retired after a traumatic event that has left him with a phobia of heights. He is hired to follow an old friend's wife (Kim Novak), with whom he falls in love. She suffers a tragic end, but then Scottie meets a woman who is her exact double, sending him into a panicked spin. It is a story of obsession and control, with themes that still feel contemporary. (1958)

**The Aftermath (BBC2, 11.15pm)**

A German's (Alexander Skarsgard) house is taken over for a British colonel (Jason Clarke) and his wife (Keira Knightley), who are part of efforts to rebuild the country after the war. Meaningful glances abound in James Kent's soapy love triangle. (2019)

Olly Richards



**Knightley, Clarke (BBC2, 11.15pm)**

## ON DEMAND

**Billy Connolly And Aly Bain — Fishing For Poetry (BBC iPlayer)**

This wry, moving salute to Norman MacCaig, the late, great Scottish poet and fly-fisher, is a documentary rich in lyricism, landscape, laughs and alliteration. Filmed in 2010, the centenary of

MacCaig's birth, the film follows fiddle maestro Bain, his long-time friend Connolly and the poet Andrew Greig as they travel in the western Highlands to fish for trout in the waters of MacCaig's revered Green Corrie Loch. With contributions from Seamus Heaney and Alasdair Gray, it is a bittersweet, haunting but ultimately soothing journey into the heart of Scottish majesty.

**Untold (Netflix)**

In its first season, this sports series focused on stories that bore out that title, hidden, suppressed and marginalised tales outside the headlines. Season two is more tabloidy, looking at such cause célèbres as the fictional girlfriend of NFL linebacker Manti Te'o. However, the quality remains high, as does the research, and the sympathetic tone of each episode is to be admired.

**Porn King — The Rise And Fall Of Ron Jeremy (All4)**

What the title doesn't convey is how well handled the subject is, examining how an industry built around male entitlement can be exploited by an individual. It's not easy to watch and – be warned – is surprisingly explicit, but it is made with a depth and intelligence that Jeremy's many victims deserve.

Andrew Male

**Thor — Love And Thunder (Disney+)**

Taika Waititi returns to direct another Thor movie after 2017's *Thor – Ragnarok*, and it's basically more of the same. Thor (Chris Hemsworth) is reunited with his ex-girlfriend, Jane (Natalie Portman), who is now a hammer-wielding hero herself. It's generally light, silly fun, although even Waititi seems aware this sequel has no real need to exist. (2022) OR



## BBC3

- 7.00pm Top Gear** A road trip in 200mph supercars.
- 8.00 Dubai Hustle** The youngest broker at the firm makes a first impression. (S2, ep 2)
- 8.30 Nail Bar Boys** The work of six male manicurists. (1/3)
- 9.00 Deepfake Porn — You Could Be Next** The rising trend of harmless images being turned into hardcore porn.
- 10.00 CHOICE Ladhood** Liam is morally compromised. (S3, ep 3; see Critics' choice)
- 10.25 Laugh Lessons** Sketches.
- 10.30 Boxing** Highlights of the women's middleweight bout between Savannah Marshall and Claressa Shields.
- 11.00 Cuckoo** Double bill.
- 11.50 Dubai Hustle** (Series 2, ep 2)
- 12.20 As 9pm**
- 1.20 Ladhood** (Series 3, ep 3)
- 1.45 Cuckoo** Double bill.
- 2.35 The Rap Game UK**
- 3.35-4.00 My Mate's A Bad Date**

## DRAMA

- 12.00 The Bill** Police drama series.
- 1.00 Classic EastEnders** Soap.
- 2.20 Monarch Of The Glen**
- 3.20 A Place To Call Home**
- 4.20 All Creatures Great And Small** James rescues a client from arrest. (Series 7, ep 7)
- 5.20 Birds Of A Feather**
- 6.00 Are You Being Served?**
- 6.40 'Allo 'Allo!** Classic comedy.
- 7.20 Last Of The Summer Wine**
- 8.00 Miss Marple** With Joan Hickson. The spinster is sent to convalesce in Barbados, where a double murder breaks the monotony. (Series 3, ep 2)
- 10.20 New Tricks** The team reinvestigates the mysterious 1956 disappearance of a police officer. (Series 11, ep 4)
- 11.40 Spooks** A former spy holds the team hostage. (S4, ep 10)
- 1.00 Bad Girls** (Series 3, ep 8)
- 2.10-4.00 Les Misérables** (2/6)

## FILMS

## SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

**6.05am** Even Mice Belong In Heaven (2021, PG) **7.45** A Journal For Jordan. The story of a soldier deployed to Iraq who keeps a journal for his son. (2021, 12) **10.10** The 355. When a top-secret weapon falls into mercenary hands, a CIA agent joins forces with three agents to retrieve it. (2022, 12) **12.30** Last Looks (2021, 15) **2.30** Monstrous (2022, 15) **4.05** Stowaway (2022, 15) **5.35** A Journal For Jordan (2021, 12) **7.50** The 355. As 10.10am. **10.00** Scream. Twenty-five years after brutal murders shocked a quiet town, a new killer dons a mask and targets teenagers. (2022, 18) **12.05** Jackass Forever (2022, 18) **2.00** Last Looks (2021, 15) **4.10-6.00** Monstrous (2022, 15)

## SKY CINEMA THRILLER

**2.00pm** Revolver. A gambler is helped by two loan sharks to exact revenge on his deranged former boss for landing him in jail. (2005, 15) **4.00** Old (2021, 15) **5.50** Collateral (2004, 15) **8.00** The Italian Job. Criminals plot a daring revenge on the former partner who double-crossed them. (2003, 12) **10.00** Revolver. As 2pm. **12.00** Kindred (2020, 15) **1.50-4.00** Collateral (2004, 15)

## BBC4

- 7.00pm Art, Passion & Power — The Story Of The Royal Collection** Charting the history of the collection of art objects amassed over the past 500 years. (1/4)
- 8.00 Art Of Persia** Samira Ahmed explores the people, culture and history of Iran. (1/3)
- 9.00 Horizon** Mark Gatiss narrates as experts discuss where they would go on Mars if they had the chance.
- 10.00 The Sky At Night** The world of astrophotography.
- 10.30 8 Days — To The Moon And Back** Docudrama about the Apollo 11 mission to the Moon.
- 12.00 A Very British History** The Vietnamese refugees who came to Britain in the 1970s and 1980s. (Last in series)
- 1.00 The Normans** (2/3)
- 2.00 Art, Passion & Power — The Story Of The Royal Collection**
- 3.00-4.00 Art Of Persia** (1/3)

## SKYARTS

- 6.00pm Alfred Hitchcock Presents:** Help Wanted. A man takes a risky job to pay for an operation. **6.30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents:** Portrait Of Jocelyn. At a gallery, a portrait gives a man a surprise.
- 7.00 Inside Art — The Rules Of Art?** Behind the scenes of the exhibition at the National Museum Cardiff.
- 7.30 Andre Rieu — Together Again** A concert of music from around the world, with performances from Sao Paulo, Mainau, Bucharest, Mexico City, Amsterdam, Melbourne and Istanbul.
- 10.05 Mystery Of The Lost Paintings** The experts try to digitally reconstruct Monet's Water Lilies. (2/8)
- 11.05-12.05 Comedy Legends** Paying tribute to Billy Crystal.

## ITV2

- 6.00pm Celebrity Catchphrase**
- 7.00 Secret Crush** New series. The comedian Verona Rose returns with the gameshow.
- 8.00 Bob's Burgers** Tina volunteers at a nursing home. (Series 6, ep 18) **8.30 Bob's Burgers** Louise comes down with the flu. (Series 7, ep 1)
- 9.00 Family Guy** Peter enjoys Bonnie's cooking. (S20, ep 6)
- 9.30 American Dad!** Stan decides to do something about his secret baldness. (S17, ep 15)
- 10.00 Family Guy** Peter forms a relationship with an elderly friend of his late mother. (S12, ep 12) **10.30 Family Guy** Meg is threatened by an unstable new pupil. (Series 12, ep 4) **11.00 Family Guy** The Griffins visit Italy.
- 11.30-12.00 American Dad!** Roger tries to help Steve overcome performance anxiety. (Series 11, ep 18)

## ITV4

- 5.55pm River Monsters**
- 6.55 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?** Quiz show.
- 7.55 The Chase** Charity edition.
- 9.00 FILM: Windtalkers** Stars Nicolas Cage and Adam Beach. A traumatised American soldier is assigned to protect two Navajo code-carriers during the invasion of Saipan. Misfires. (2002, 15; includes FYI Daily)
- 11.45 FILM: Alien³** Stars Sigourney Weaver and Charles Dance. Ripley is marooned alone on a prison planet, only to face another of the lethal extraterrestrial creatures. Muddled sci-fi sequel. (1992, 18; includes FYI Daily)
- 2.00 Motorsport UK** Action.
- 2.50 Unwind** Daily relaxation.
- 3.00-6.00 Teleshopping** Goods.

## ITV3

- 6.00 Classic Coronation Street**
- 7.00 Classic Emmerdale** Soap.
- 8.05 That's My Boy** Sitcom.
- 9.15 The Royal** Hospital drama.
- 11.30 Heartbeat** Rural drama.
- 1.40 Classic Emmerdale** Soap.
- 2.45 Classic Coronation Street**
- 3.50 Poirot** A passenger is killed on a flight, leaving few clues to the killer's identity. (S4, ep 2)
- 6.00 Heartbeat** DI Shiner investigates a gold raid. **7.00 Heartbeat** A bride-to-be gets cold feet about her nuptials.
- 8.00 Endeavour** The detective has been assigned to a quiet rural area in 1969, but is reunited with former CID colleagues when he discovers the body of a missing girl. (S6, ep 1)
- 10.00 The Bay** Shazia's explosive revelation threatens to destroy the Rahman family; and the police investigation grinds to a halt until a vital clue offers a glimmer of hope. (S3, ep 5) **11.05 The Bay** Jenn is determined to find out the truth about the murder and the race is on to find the missing pieces of the puzzle before the killer escapes.
- 12.10 The Royal** A new head porter is appointed. **1.15 The Royal** An ice-cream parlour is targeted by vandals.
- 2.20 Unwind** Daily relaxation.
- 2.30-6.00 Teleshopping** Goods.



Persia-bound: Ahmed (BBC4, 8pm)

## E4

- 6.00pm The Big Bang Theory**
- 7.00 Hollyoaks** Chester soap.
- 7.30 The Big Bang Theory** Sheldon teaches Leonard about American football. (S3, ep 6)
- 8.00 Below Deck — Mediterranean** Reality show following the lives of the crew aboard a superyacht during a charter season around the Greek Islands.
- 9.00 Married At First Sight UK** The experts set the couples an exercise to explore power play in their marriages as they move in and start living together for the first time.
- 10.00 Celeb Cooking School** The contestants must roast a chicken without giving the chef Giorgio Locatelli food poisoning.
- 11.05-12.10 Gogglebox** Shows including All Star Musicals and Mary Berry's Quick Cooking are appraised.

## MORE4

- 5.55pm Car SOS** Vehicle revamps.
- 6.55 Escape To The Chateau** The start of the wedding season sees Dick Strawbridge and Angel Adoree at their busiest.
- 7.55 The Yorkshire Dales And The Lakes** The villagers of Carlton-in-Coverdale are making last-minute preparations for the arrival of the Tour de Yorkshire.
- 9.00 Devon And Cornwall** Two friends try to turn a passion for retro powerboats into racing glory and prizes.
- 10.00 Holidays From Hell — Caught On Camera** Cameras reveal what can go wrong when a dream holiday turns into a nightmare.
- 11.05-12.05 24 Hours In A&E** An actor visits St George's Hospital with a suspected broken shoulder.

## ENTERTAINMENT

## GOLD

**7.15am** Keeping Up Appearances **7.45** Outnumbered **8.20** 2point4 Children **9.00** Hi-De-Hi! **9.40** Still Open All Hours **10.20** Last Of The Summer Wine **11.40** Desmond's **12.15** 2point4 Children **12.55** Dad's Army **1.30** Outnumbered **2.10** Keeping Up Appearances **2.50** Last Of The Summer Wine **4.00** Dad's Army **4.40** Still Open All Hours **5.20** Keeping Up Appearances **6.00** Hi-De-Hi! **6.40** Dad's Army **8.00** Only Fools And Horses **9.20** Bottom **10.40** This Time With Alan Partridge **11.20** The Royle Family **12.15** Peep Show **1.25** Desmond's **1.55** 2point4 Children **2.30** Bottom **3.30-4.00** This Time With Alan Partridge

## SKY COMEDY

**6.00pm** Futurama **6.30** Everybody Hates Chris **7.30** The US Office **9.00** Last Week Tonight **9.40** Black Monday **11.00** Real Time **12.15** Last Week Tonight **12.55** Gary Gulman — The Great Depress **2.15** Entourage **4.00-5.00** Everybody Hates Chris

## SKY WITNESS

**6.00pm** Nothing To Declare **8.00** Blue Bloods **10.00** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit **11.00** 9-1-1

**12.00** The Equalizer **1.00** Law & Order: Organized Crime **2.00** Coroner **3.00** FBI **4.00** Road Wars **5.00-6.00** Brit Cops — Rapid Response

## W

**6.00pm** Property Brothers — Forever Homes **7.00** Masterchef Australia **8.00** Inside The Ambulance — Coast And Country **9.00** DIY SOS — Celebrating 20 Years **10.20** The Undateables **11.20** Dating With My Mates **12.20** Children's Ward **1.30** Tipping Point **2.30-3.00** Inside The Ambulance

## 5 STAR

**6.00pm** Home And Away **7.00** GPs — Behind Closed Doors **8.00** Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly **9.00** Dirty Home Rescue **10.00** Adults Only: S\*\*\*\*ing 9 To 5 **11.00** FILM: The Vanishing **1.15** Red Shoe Diaries **2.30-4.00** Judge Judy

## 5 USA

**6.00pm** NCIS **9.00** The Blacklist. Liz refuses to collaborate with Red **10.00** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit **3.35-4.00** Criminals — Caught On Camera

## COMEDY CENTRAL

**8.00am** Most Ridiculous Ever! **8.35** Most Ridiculous Adrenaline Junkies **9.00** Takeshi's Castle **10.00** Your Face Or Mine **11.00** Friends **9.00** Guessable?



# TALKTV

**6.00 James Max** The latest news.  
**6.30 The Julia Hartley-Brewer Breakfast Show** Discussion.  
**10.00 The Independent Republic Of Mike Graham** A look at the morning newspapers.  
**1.00 Ian Collins** Monologues, debates and viewers' calls.  
**4.00 Vanessa Feltz** Discussion on the latest talking points.  
**7.00 The News Desk** Tom Newton Dunn tackles the biggest stories of the day.  
**8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored** The host presents his verdict on the day's global events.  
**9.00 The Talk** Debating the topics everybody is talking about.  
**10.00 Daisy McAndrew** Updates.  
**11.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored**  
**12.00 Petrie Hosken** Updates.  
**4.00 The Talk** Political chat.  
**5.00-6.00 James Max** Updates.  
*Available on Sky 526; Freeview 237; Virgin 627; Freesat 217; YouTube, connected TVs and smart devices*

# SKYMAX

**6.00pm Stargate SG-1** Jackson is recruited by the Tok'ra. (Series 5, ep 16, R) **7.00 Stargate SG-1** Jackson is enslaved by the Goa'uld. (R)  
**8.00 Resident Alien** Asta is concerned when she thinks Harry might be building another bomb and hopes to find out when they go camping. (Series 2, ep 4, R)  
**9.00 Cobra — Cyberwar** As the cyber-attack continues to jam communications, the prime minister convenes an emergency Cobra meeting following the devastation in Kent. (Series 2, ep 2, R)  
**10.00 Brassic** The gang heads to Wales for Ringo and Babs' wedding. (Series 4, ep 1, R)  
**11.00-12.05 A League Of Their Own** With Aaron Ramsdale and Emily Attack. (R)

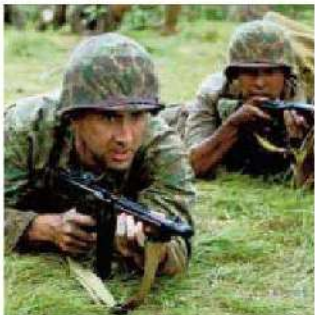
**10.00** Rhod Gilbert's Growing Pains  
**11.00** Ridiculousness **12.00** South Park  
**2.00** The Ricky Gervais Show **3.00** Bob's Burgers **3.45-5.00** Friends

**YESTERDAY**  
**6.00am** Warbird Workshop **8.00** Abandoned Engineering **9.00** The World At War **10.00** Adolf Hitler's War **11.00** Abandoned Engineering **12.00** The Architecture The Railways Built **1.00** Bangers And Cash **2.00** Abandoned Engineering **4.00** War Factories **5.00** The World At War **6.00** The Architecture The Railways Built **7.00** Abandoned Engineering **9.00** The Buildings That Fought Hitler **10.00** Bangers And Cash **11.00** Abandoned Engineering **12.00-1.00** The Architecture The Railways Built

**DAVE**  
**6.00pm** Taskmaster **7.00** House Of Games **7.40** Room 101 **8.20** Would I Lie To You? **9.00** QI XL. With Bill Bailey, Jo Brand and Greg Davies **10.00 CHOICE** Question Team. Richard Ayoadie is joined by Jo Brand, Thanyia Moore, Josh Pugh and special guest Bill Bailey. (See Critics' choice) **11.00** Have I Got A Bit More Old News For You. Frank Skinner hosts **12.00** Mock The Week **12.40** QI **1.15** QI XL **2.25** Room 101 **2.55** Would I Lie To You? **3.25-4.00** Mock The Week

# SKYATLANTIC

**6.00 Urban Secrets** Documentary.  
**7.45 Boardwalk Empire** Drama.  
**10.00 The Sopranos** Crime drama.  
**12.15 Six Feet Under** Drama.  
**2.25 Game Of Thrones** (S2, ep 5)  
**3.30 Boardwalk Empire** Eli tries to get back into Nucky's good books. (Series 3, ep 7) **4.40 Boardwalk Empire** Nucky pays a visit to treasury secretary Andrew Mellon.  
**5.45 The Sopranos** Bobby 'Bacala' Baccalieri Sr comes out of retirement. (S3, ep 5) **6.50 The Sopranos** Meadow's social life at college takes a sudden turn for the worse.  
**7.55 Game Of Thrones** Qhorin gives Jon a chance to prove himself. (Series 2, ep 6)  
**9.00 House Of The Dragon** Game of Thrones prequel, with Paddy Considine. (4/10)  
**10.05 Gangs Of London** Alexander is asked to meet with an old contact. (4/9)  
**11.10 House Of The Dragon** (4/10)  
**12.15 The Nevers** Adventure. (4/6)  
**1.25 Irma Vep** Drama. (6/8)  
**2.30 In Treatment** Paul learns more about Mia than he wanted to know. (S2, ep 16)  
**3.00 In Treatment** April becomes preoccupied with her brother's problems. **3.30 In Treatment** Paul gets an insight into Oliver's mother.  
**4.00-6.00 Urban Secrets**



Shooting the breeze (ITV4, 9pm)

## FACTUAL

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC**  
**6.00pm** Colossal Machines **7.00** Air Crash Investigation **8.00** Air Crash Investigation — Special Report. Three flights fall victim to astonishing acts of sabotage **9.00** Running Wild. Anthony Anderson joins Bear Grylls in the Sierra Nevada Mountains **10.00** Wicked Tuna **11.00** Air Crash Investigation **12.00** Car SOS **1.00-2.00** Wicked Tuna

**DISCOVERY**  
**6.00pm** Kindig Customs **7.00** Junkyard Empire **8.00** Railroad Alaska **9.00** Wheeler Dealers. New series. Mike Brewer has a tip from his electrician **10.00** Chasing Classic Cars. The Tupelo Automobile Museum decide to auction off their full collection **11.00** Yukon Men **12.00** The Alaska Triangle **1.00-2.00** Wheeler Dealers

**PBS AMERICA**  
**6.00pm** In Search Of Medieval Britain **7.20** Flood In The Desert. The 1928 St Francis Dam collapse **8.30** The Vietnam War **10.50-12.00** Flood In The Desert

**SKY DOCUMENTARIES**  
**6.00am** Urban Secrets **7.00** Discovering Robert Duvall **8.00** The Directors

# SPORT

**SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT**  
**6.00am** News **7.00** Good Morning Sports Fans **10.00** Test Cricket Bitesize **10.15 LIVE** Test Cricket: England v South Africa. Coverage of the fifth and final day of the series-concluding third Test, held at the Oval **7.00 LIVE MNF:** Leeds United v Nottingham Forest. Coverage of the Premier League encounter at Elland Road. Kickoff at 8.00 **11.00** News **12.00** Total Access **1.00 LIVE** NFL: Seattle Seahawks v Denver Broncos. Coverage of the week one match at Lumen Field. Kickoff at 1.15 **4.30-6.00** News

**EUROSPORT 1**  
**6.00am** Cycling. The Challenge by La Vuelta **7.00** Vuelta A España **8.00** Vuelta A España — The Breakaway **8.30** Climbing World Cup **10.00** Cycling. The Tour of Romania **10.30** Vuelta A España **11.30** Vuelta A España — The Breakaway **12.00** Cycling. The Challenge by La Vuelta **1.00** Athletics **2.30** Cycling. The Tour of Romania **3.00** 72 — A Gathering Of Champions **5.00** Triathlon — Super League **6.00** Long Course Weekend **7.00** Cycling: The Challenge by La Vuelta **8.00** Vuelta A España **9.00** 72 — A Gathering Of Champions. Fifty years after the 1972 Olympic Summer Games, 11 Olympic heroes return to Munich **11.00** Vuelta A España **12.00** Cycling. The Challenge by La Vuelta **1.00** Hall Of Fame: Sydney 2000 **2.00** Vuelta A España **3.00** Cycling. The Challenge by La Vuelta **4.00-6.00** Speedway Grand Prix

**BT SPORT 1**  
**6.00am** ESPN FC **6.30** Premier League Stories **7.00** WWE NXT Highlights **8.00** AFL **12.00** Uefa Champions League Review **1.00** ESPN FC **1.30** National League **3.00** National League Highlights **3.30** Premier League **5.00** ESPN FC **5.30** ESPN FC Presents: Gab & Juls **6.00** Joe Cole Cast **6.30** Ligue 1 Highlights **7.30 LIVE** Serie A: Empoli v Roma. Coverage of the Italian top-flight encounter at Stadio Carlo Castellani. Kickoff at 7.45 **9.45** Currie Club **10.15** Uefa Europa League Goals Reload **10.30** ESPN FC Presents: Gab & Juls **11.00** WWE Raw Highlights **12.00** WWE Smackdown Highlights **1.00 LIVE** WWE Monday Night Raw. Grappling action from America **4.15** Rugby Tonight **5.00** Goals Reload **5.30-6.00** ESPN FC Presents: Gab & Juls

**9.00** The 2000s **10.00** Catch And Kill — The Podcast Tapes **11.00** The Vietnam War **12.00** The Loneliest Whale — The Search For 52 **2.00** Wishful Drinking **3.30** Premier League Legends **4.00** The Directors **5.00** Discovering Robert Duvall **6.00** The 2000s **7.00** Catch And Kill — The Podcast Tapes **8.00** The Vietnam War **9.00** Chernobyl — The Lost Tapes. Archive footage of the 1986 disaster **10.50-1.00** Val

**SKY NATURE**  
**6.00am** The Wild Wild East **7.00** Africa's Hidden Kingdoms **8.00** Monkey Life **9.00** Big Cat Country **10.00** Hope For Wildlife **11.00** Brazil Untamed **12.00** Arabian Inferno **1.00** Monkey Life **2.00** Africa's Hidden Kingdoms **3.00** Hope For Wildlife **4.00** Big Cat Country **5.00** Brazil Untamed **6.00** Arabian Inferno **7.00** Monkey Life **8.00** Kingdom Of Plants **9.00** Deadly Australians **10.00** Brazil Untamed **11.00-12.00** Arabian Inferno

**SMITHSONIAN**  
**6.00am** Aerial America **10.00** Atomic Bomb — Witness To History **11.00** The Pacific War In Colour **7.00** Inside The Factory **8.00** Food Factories — How They Work **10.00** Inside The Factory. At a fish finger factory **11.00-12.00** Food Factories — How They Work

# RADIO



## Book Of The Week

**Radio 4 FM, 9.45am/12.30am**  
Edward Enninful, pictured, the editor of *Vogue*, reads from his autobiography, *A Visible Man*. The **Ugly Things** podcast focuses on British beat, 1960s garage rock and psychedelia; the first guests are the surviving members of the Troggs. Hosted by Alice Levine and Matt Forde, **British Scandal** (Wondery podcast) investigates the late MP and alleged spy John Stonehouse. *Clair Woodward*

### RADIO 4

**5.30** News **5.43** Prayer **5.45** Farming Today **5.58** Tweet Of The Day (R) **6.00** Today **9.00** Start The Week. New run **9.45** Book Of The Week: A Visible Man, by Edward Enninful **9.45** (LW) Daily Service **10.00** Woman's Hour **10.45-7.00** (LW) Test Cricket: England v South Africa. Live commentary on day five of the third Test at the Oval **11.00** Room 5 (R) **11.30** The Frost Tapes. Michael Caine tells his story over several interviews **12.00** News **12.01** (LW) Shipping **12.04** You And Yours **1.00** The World At One **1.45** The Boy In The Woods. New series exploring the 1994 murder of six-year-old Rikki Neave **2.00** The Archers (R) **2.15** This Cultural Life (R) **3.00** Brain Of Britain **3.30** The Food Programme (R) **4.00** My Space (R) **4.30** Beyond Belief **5.00** PM **5.54** (LW) Shipping **6.00** News **6.30** Mark Steel's In Town **7.00** The Archers **7.15** Front Row **8.00** Ugandan Asians — The Reckoning. Documentary **8.30** Crossing Continents (R) **9.00** The Spark (R) **9.30** Start The Week (R) **10.00** The World Tonight **10.45** Book At Bedtime **11.00** In Suburbia (R) **11.30** Today In Parliament **12.00** News **12.30** Book Of The Week (R) **12.48** Shipping **1.00** As World Service

### TIMES RADIO

**5.00** Anna Cunningham With Early Breakfast. Early-morning headlines **6.00** Aasmah Mir And Stig Abell With Times Radio Breakfast **10.00** Matt Chorley **1.00** Mariella Frostrup. News, views and reviews **4.00** John Pienaar At Drive. Analysis of the day's news **7.00** Henry Bonsu **10.00** Carole Walker **1.00** Stories Of Our Times. Daily podcast **1.30** Red Box. Matt Chorley's politics podcast **2.00** Highlights From Times Radio

*To get in touch with the Times Radio studio, text TIMES plus your message to 87222. Texts cost your standard message charge.*

### RADIO 4 EXTRA

**5.00** Poetry Extra **5.30** Thanks A Lot, Milton Jones! **6.00** Some Mother's Son **6.30** Agatha Raisin **7.00** Hazelbeach **7.30** Mark Steel's In Town **8.00** Round The Horne **8.30** Yes Minister **9.00** Dilemma **9.30** Country Matters **10.00** The No 1 Ladies' Detective Agency **10.45** Short Works **11.00** TED Radio Hour **11.50** Inheritance Tracks **12.00** Round The Horne **12.30** Yes Minister **1.00** Some Mother's Son **1.30** Agatha Raisin **2.00** Adventures Of A Young Naturalist **2.15** Eleanor Rising **2.30** Fowles In Dorset **3.00** The No 1 Ladies' Detective Agency **3.45** Short Works **4.00** Dilemma **4.30** Country Matters **5.00** Hazelbeach **5.30** Mark Steel's In Town **6.00** Journey Into Space — Operation Luna **6.30** A Good Read **7.00** Round The Horne **7.30** Yes Minister **8.00** Some Mother's Son **8.30** Agatha Raisin **9.00** TED Radio Hour **9.50** Inheritance Tracks **10.00** Mark Steel's In Town **10.30** Rubbish **10.55** The Comedy Club Interview **11.00** News Quiz **11.30-12.00** The Wilson Dixon Line

### LBC

**7.00** Nick Ferrari **10.00** James O'Brien **1.00** Shelagh Fogarty **4.00** Tom Swarbrick **6.00** Tonight With Andrew Marr **7.00** Iain Dale **10.00** Ian Payne **1.00** Darren Adam **4.00** Steve Allen

### RADIO 3

**6.30** Breakfast **9.00** Essential Classics **12.00** Composer Of The Week: Bruckner **1.00** Lunchtime Concert. A live recital at London's Wigmore Hall by the tenor Christoph Prégardien and the pianist Michael Gees **2.00** Afternoon Concert. The BBC SO on tour at the Mecklenburg Vorpommern festival performing Elgar and Dvorak **4.30** New Generation Artists **5.00** In Tune **7.00** In Tune Mixtape **7.30** In Concert. The SWR Symphony Orchestra of Stuttgart plays Prokofiev's ballet music for Cinderella, with the pianist Vadym Kholodenko joining for Rachmaninov's Rhapsody On A Theme Of Paganini **9.30** Northern Drift. Elizabeth Alker is joined at the Trades Club in Hebden Bridge by Manchester poet Shirley May and folk duo Bryony and Alice **10.00** Music Matters. Tom Service talks to the Norwegian soprano Lise Davidsen (R) **10.45** The Essay. The first of five reflections on the history and nuances of British Sign Language, with Robert Adam exploring its history (R) **11.00** Night Tracks **12.30** Through The Night

### CLASSIC FM

**6.00** Tim Lihoreau **9.00** Alexander Armstrong **12.00** Anne-Marie Minhall **4.00** John Brunning **7.00** Zeb Soanes **10.00** Margherita Taylor **1.00** Karthi Gnanasegaram **4.00** Lucy Coward

### RADIO 2

**6.30** The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show **9.30** Ken Bruce. Sara Dallin from Bananarama picks tracks **12.00** Jeremy Vine **2.00** Steve Wright **5.00** Sara Cox **7.00** Jo Whiley **9.00** The Blues Show **10.00** Trevor Nelson **12.00** OJ Borg **3.00** Pick Of The Pops (R) **4.00** Nicki Chapman

### VIRGIN RADIO

**6.30** The Chris Evans Breakfast Show **10.00** Eddy Temple-Morris **1.00** Tim Cocker **4.00** Jayne Middlemiss **7.00** Steve Denyer **10.00** Olivia Jones **1.00** Sean Goldsmith **4.00** Steve Denyer

### TALKSPORT

**5.00** Early Breakfast **6.00** Breakfast **10.00** Jim White And Simon Jordan **1.00** Hawksbee And Jacobs **4.00** Drive **7.00** GameNight: Leeds United v Nottingham Forest. Kickoff 8.00 **10.00** Sports Bar **1.00** Extra Time



- 6.00 Breakfast** The latest reports.  
**9.15 Morning Live** Magazine.  
**10.00 Dom Does America** (R)  
**10.45 Claimed And Shamed** (R)  
**11.15 Homes Under The Hammer**  
**12.15 Bargain Hunt** Curios. (R)  
**1.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**1.45 Doctors** A vulnerable homeless man claims to have been assaulted by robots.  
**2.15 Money For Nothing** (R)  
**3.00 Escape To The Country** A couple explore Powys.  
**3.45 The Bidding Room** (R)  
**4.30 Antiques Road Trip** Raj Bisram and Irita Marriott search Northamptonshire.  
**5.15 Pointless** Unorthodox quiz.  
**6.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**6.30 Regional News** Update.  
**7.00 The One Show** Features.  
**7.30 EastEnders** Kat is less than pleased to see ex-husband Alfie, who begs her not to marry Phil; Billy panics when he learns what Freddie has done; and Mick feels helpless trying to help Frankie.  
**8.00 CHOICE Fake Or Fortune?** Fiona Bruce and Philip Mould investigate the origins of a 17th-century painting of Christ having just been brought down from the cross, currently hanging in a Port Glasgow church. (See Critics' choice)  
**9.00 CHOICE Celebrity Masterchef** The five remaining contenders begin finals week, serving up afternoon tea for 12 well-known guests at Alexandra Palace. (See Critics' choice)  
**10.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**10.40 Ambulance** A call handler takes a distressing call from an elderly woman who can no longer care for her husband alone; and a man who fell backwards while moving a slot machine is treated. (R)  
**11.40 Question Of Sport** An edition of the quiz celebrating 50 years of Pride in the UK, with Mark Foster, Katy Daley-McLean, Susannah Townsend and Bruce Moutat. (R)  
**12.10 The Dark Side Of Direct Sales** Investigating the direct sales sector, which has evolved in the social media age, asking if workers are being exploited by practices within some of the firms. (R)  
**12.45-6.00 Joins BBC News**  
**SCOTLAND 6.30** Reporting Scotland; Weather. **7.00** River City.  
**10.40** Disclosure. **11.10** Ambulance.

- 6.20 Money For Nothing** (R)  
**7.05 Antiques Road Trip** (R)  
**7.50 Nature's Weirdest Events** Wildlife insights. (Signed, R)  
**8.20 Our Lives: Rat Woman.** Documentary. (Signed, R)  
**8.50 Lifeline** Charity appeal. (R)  
**9.00 News; Weather** Update.  
**12.15 Politics Live** Discussion.  
**1.00 Chase The Case** Game. (R)  
**1.45 Eggheads** Team quiz. (R)  
**2.15 Glorious Gardens From Above** Exploring Sussex. (R)  
**3.00 Flipping Profit** Items. (R)  
**3.45 Wanted — A Simple Life** A couple seek a retirement home in East Sussex. (R)  
**4.30 Murder, Mystery And My Family** Investigating the 1880 case against a farm labourer charged with murder. (R)  
**5.15 Flog It!** The programme visits Manchester's Museum of Science and Industry. (R)  
**5.30 Women's T20 Cricket:** England v India. Live coverage of the second match of the series, which comes from the County Ground in Derby.  
**9.30 Inside The Factory XL:** Diggers. Gregg Wallace and Cherry Healey are given access to the JCB factory in Rocester, Staffordshire, that makes as many as a hundred iconic yellow diggers every single day. (R)  
**10.30 Newsnight** The day's events.  
**11.15 Martin Compston's Scottish Fling** The Line of Duty star travels across his homeland with his best friend and television presenter Phil MacHugh to see how its people and landscape are shaping the country. (R)  
**11.45 CHOICE Sus Stars** Clint Dyer, Ralph Brown, Rafe Spall and Anjela Lauren Smith. Racist detectives use brutal methods to force an innocent black man into confessing to murdering his wife. (2010, 15; see Film choice)  
**1.15 Celebrity Masterchef** Mary Berry challenges the cooks to recreate one of her favourite recipes. (Signed, R) **2.15 Celebrity Masterchef** The critic Grace Dent delivers a brief to the remaining contenders. (Signed, R)  
**2.45-3.45 Saving Lives At Sea** The Lyme Regis crew face a frantic search for three fishermen whose boat has capsized. (Signed, R)

- 6.00 Good Morning Britain**  
**9.00 Lorraine** Lifestyle chat.  
**10.00 This Morning** Features.  
**12.30 Loose Women** Debate.  
**1.30 News; Weather** Reports.  
**2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal**  
**3.00 Tenable** A team of five friends answer questions.  
**4.00 Tipping Point** Gameshow.  
**5.00 The Chase** Quiz show, hosted by Bradley Walsh.  
**6.00 Regional News** Update.  
**6.30 News; Weather** Reports.  
**7.30 Emmerdale** The police show Kim definitive proof that Jamie is alive; and a guilty Mackenzie beats himself up over his affair and he plans on telling Charity the truth.  
**8.00 Vera** Detective drama, with Brenda Blethyn. The long suffering DCI Stanhope must unravel the mystery when a well-respected builder and family man is found beaten to death on the steps of the Collingwood Monument, just before he was due to testify in court as the key witness in a violent assault case. (Series 11, ep 1, R)  
**10.00 News At Ten** Bulletin.  
**10.45 The Thief, His Wife And The Canoe — The Real Story** Documentary about John Darwin, who faked his own death in a canoeing accident off the coast of Hartlepool and then started a new life with his wife, Anne, in Panama. (R)  
**11.40 Heathrow — Britain's Busiest Airport** A passenger experience manager deals with a medical emergency; and a border force officer returns to cross-examine unsuspecting passengers. (R)  
**12.05 Teleshopping** Goods.  
**3.00 Take The Tower** A woman, her daughter and two nephews take on the challenge. (R)  
**3.50 Unwind** Daily relaxation.  
**5.05-6.00 Dickinson's Real Deal** From Bridlington. (R)



Plain abseiling? (C4, 10.30pm)

- 6.10 Countdown** Gameshow. (R)  
**6.50 3rd Rock From The Sun** (R)  
**7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond** Family comedy series. (R)  
**9.00 Frasier** American sitcom. (R)  
**10.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA** Advice. (R)  
**11.25 News; Weather** Reports.  
**11.30 The Great House Giveaway** A home in Middlesbrough. (R)  
**12.30 Steph's Packed Lunch**  
**2.10 Countdown** Gameshow.  
**3.00 A Place In The Sun** Advice. (R)  
**4.00 Chateau DIY** Insights.  
**5.00 Moneybags** Quiz show.  
**6.00 The Simpsons** Bart is put on experimental medication. (R)  
**6.30 Hollyoaks** Warren finds out that his son ran him over. (R)  
**7.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**8.00 CHOICE The Great British Bake Off** New run. Noel Fielding and Matt Lucas welcome 12 new contestants into the tent, baking mini cakes and two sponges, including one in the shape of a house close to their hearts, in an effort to impress judges Paul Hollywood and Prue Leith. (See Pick of the week)  
**9.30 First Dates Hotel** Twins arrive at the Italian hotel on the lookout for love; and a 57-year-old is paired with 47-year-old, who is looking to inject a bit of hedonism into her life on a date that proves opposites do attract.  
**10.30 Rosie Jones' Trip Hazard** The comedian is joined by the rapper Lady Leshurr to face a 418ft abseil challenge in Northampton, and they prepare by going up in a microlight and taking part in an anti-gravity yoga class.  
**11.35 Gogglebox** The critics share their opinions on what they have been watching, with cameras capturing their instant reactions. (R)  
**12.35 The Last Leg** With Richard Ayoade and Aisling Bea. (R)  
**1.30 The Simpsons** Cartoon. (R)  
**2.20 FILM: The Dressmaker** Stars Kate Winslet, Judy Davis and Hugo Weaving. In 1950s Australia, a fashion designer returns to her remote home town, planning to reconcile with her mother and get even with her enemies. Colourful drama. (2015, 12)  
**4.15 Perfect House, Secret Location** Property. (R)  
**5.15-6.10 The Great Home Transformation** (R)

- 6.00 Milkshake!** Fun for children.  
**9.15 Jeremy Vine** Debate.  
**12.45 Holiday Homes In The Sun**  
**1.40 News; Weather** Reports.  
**1.45 Home And Away** Felicity hurls abuse at the police keeping her imprisoned.  
**2.15 Picture Perfect Mysteries — Dead Over Diamonds** Crime drama, with Alexa and Carlos PenaVega. A photographer and a detective's investigation into a priceless stolen necklace leads to an unexpected death.  
**4.00 Bargain-Loving Brits In The Sun** Featuring an 82-year-old originally from Wales. (R)  
**5.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**6.00 Cash In The Attic** Curios.  
**6.55 News; Weather** Reports.  
**7.00 Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly** Graeme Hall treats a dog that has become aggressive towards other canines after being attacked, and helps a cancer patient with a badly behaved golden retriever. (R)  
**7.55 News; Weather** Reports.  
**8.00 The Yorkshire Vet** Peter Wright helps a pregnant cow that is expecting twins, but the farmer is worried that neither calf will survive; and Julian Norton meets a champion ferret suffering from an infected foot.  
**9.00 CHOICE The Pyrenees With Michael Portillo** For the final leg, the broadcaster retraces the route through the Catalan Pyrenees his father used to flee in 1939 as a political refugee from the Spanish Civil War. (See Critics' choice; last in series)  
**10.00 Getting Away With Murder — The Killing Of Mary Gough** Documentary looking at the investigation into the death of the 27-year-old, which eventually turned into an international manhunt. (R)  
**12.05 Angel Of Death — The Crimes Of Beverley Allitt** A psychological profile of the former nurse, who is currently serving life for the murders of four children at a Lincolnshire hospital in 1991. (R)  
**1.00 The LeoVegas Live Casino Show** Interactive gambling.  
**3.00 Entertainment News** Gossip.  
**3.05 Britain's Favourite Chocolate** A poll in which the nation decided the UK's favourite chocolate treat. (R)  
**4.45 Amazing Cakes & Bakes** (R)  
**5.30-6.00 Children's Shows**

## VARIATIONS

**ITV WALES 10.45** Face To Face  
**11.10** The Thief, His Wife And The Canoe — The Real Story **BBC1**  
**WALES 10.40** Ruck Stars **11.10** Ambulance **BBC2** **WALES 1.45** First Minister's Questions **2.35** Eggheads **3.05** Flipping Profit **3.50** Wanted — A Simple Life **4.35** The Best Dishes Ever **4.45** Murder, Mystery And My Family **S4C 6.00** Cyw: Peppa **6.05** Jen A Jim Pob Dim **6.20** Y Brodyr Coala **6.30** Dwylo'r Enfyf **6.45** Caru Canu A Stori **6.55** Shwshaswyn **7.05** Ein Byd Bach Ni

**7.15** Nico Nog **7.25** Pablo **7.40** Amser Maith Maith Yn Ol **8.00** Bing **8.10** Wibli Sochyn Y Mochyn **8.20** Y Diwrnod Mawr **8.35** Digbi Draig **8.45** Asra **9.00** Olobobs **9.05** Blero Y Mynd I Ocido **9.20** Jambori **9.30** Guto Gwningen **9.45** Cacamwnci **10.00** Peppa **10.05** Jen A Jim Pob Dim **10.20** Y Brodyr Coala **10.30** Dwylo'r Enfyf **10.45** Caru Canu A Stori **10.55** Shwshaswyn **11.05** Ein Byd Bach Ni **11.15** Nico Nog **11.25** Pablo **11.40** Amser Maith Maith Yn Ol **12.00** Newyddion A'r Tywydd

**12.05** Pysgod I Bawb **12.30** Heno **1.00** Caeau Cymru **1.30** Cefn Gwlad **2.00** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **2.05** Prynawn Da **3.00** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **3.05** Yr Anialwch **4.00** Awr Fawr **5.00** Stwnsh **6.00** Dim Byd I'w Wisgo **6.30** Sgorio **6.57** Newyddion **7.00** Heno **7.30** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **8.00** Pobol Y Cwm **8.25** Rownd A Rownd **8.55** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **9.00** Gwesty Aduniad **10.00** Ogof Gwddf Y Diafol. New series. A body is found in a sleepy Bulgarian town **11.00-11.35** Codi Hwyl

## YOU SAY

So, the inestimable Roger Bolton has signed off the current series of **Feedback** (Radio 4), informing us of his sacking. Can anyone tell me when the new series introduced by Amol Rajan starts?  
**Edmund Buck**

The reason Amol Rajan is a startling choice for **University Challenge** (BBC2) is that the natural rhythm of his speaking voice hurries and jumps like scratched vinyl. As a result, he may struggle to emphasise the key words of the questions.  
**Peter Cash**



## CRITICS' CHOICE

**Gorbachev. Heaven**  
(BBC4, 9pm)

Don't expect a primer on Mikhail Gorbachev's career from this wintry *Storyville* profile of the Soviet Union's last leader; in fact, reading one of last month's obituaries before viewing might be an idea, as it assumes you know the basics. In a house shared only with staff (his beloved wife, Raisa, died in 1999), he gets around using a walking frame, recites poems, watches Putin on TV and answers questions from the director, Vitaly Mansky. Except when asked about the USSR's collapse in 1991, he is genial, lucid and candid. And "Heaven"? It seems to refer to country drives with Raisa in Russia's deep south, before ambition and fate took him north in the 1970s to Moscow.

John Dugdale



Part of the union: Mikhail and Raisa on a state visit to India in 1986 (BBC4, 9pm)

## And the winner is ...

By the time you wake up this morning, the world will know if the Brits ruled at the Emmys, whether or not their audiences were aware of their nationality. **Succession** (Sky/Now) is the biggest hitter, with 25 nominations, including Brian Cox and Matthew Macfadyen. **Ted Lasso** (Apple TV+) secured 20 nods, among them Sarah Niles, Juno Temple and Hannah Waddingham. In a bumper year, Jodie Comer (**Killing Eve**, BBC iPlayer), Will Poulter (**Dopesick**, Disney+), Lily James (**Pam And Tommy**, Disney+), Himesh Patel (**Station 11**, Starzplay) and Colin Firth (**The Staircase**, Sky/Now) all buried their accents to dazzle. John Oliver (**Last Week Tonight**, Sky/Now) kept the voice but, as he never tires of reminding us, he is an American now.

Helen Stewart

**Europe's Forgotten Border**  
(PBS America, 7.20pm)

This excellent documentary shows the staggering cruelty meted out to individuals who were desperate to cross the Iron Curtain, starting with a heart-stopping opening sequence that follows a family as they try to get across the Czechoslovakian border. Flush with relief after a hard walk through the forest, they catch sight of some border guards in the distance, dressed in American uniforms. Will our heroes reach safety before the Czechs catch up with them? A fascinating episode from a hidden history of citizens imprisoned in their own countries; the viciousness with which resistance was put down will shock.

Helen Stewart

**Fake Or Fortune?**  
(BBC1, 8pm)

In a twist on the usual formula, tonight's art-detective show tries to establish the painter responsible for a dramatic image of Christ in a Port Glasgow church. A list of Flemish suspects is whittled down, but you know it's good when dendroarchaeologists come out to play.



Czech point (PBS America, 7.20pm)

**Celebrity Masterchef**  
(BBC1, 9pm)

Finals week begins with one of those challenges that amps up the sense of faux-jeopardy for the five surviving contestants: creating afternoon tea for a dozen famous BBC faces at Alexandra Palace. The weakest cook in the bunch will be eliminated tonight; the winner will be crowned on Friday.

**The Pyrenees With Michael Portillo**  
(C5, 9pm)

With only a woolly orange hat to echo his travelling motley, Michael Portillo ends his hike with a "personal pilgrimage": tracing the path of his father, who left Spain as a political refugee in 1939. Conventional travelogue has winemakers and tortoise conservationists.

Victoria Segal

## FILM CHOICE

**Little Women** (Sky Cinema Drama, 6am/1.10am)

A more straightforward, less incisive film than Greta Gerwig's 2019 version, this is a warmly traditional take on Louisa May Alcott's novel about four sisters and their stalwart mother (Susan Sarandon) living in 19th-century America. Directed by Gillian Armstrong, it is a gorgeous production with a terrific cast, including Winona Ryder, Claire Danes, Kirsten Dunst and Christian Bale. Armstrong is interested in the ups and downs of such a close family, rather than just being swept up in romantic prettiness, which gives the film a solid core. (1994)

**Sus** (BBC2, 11.45pm)

Based on Barrie Keeffe's 1979 play, Robert Heath's film never escapes its stage origins, but that doesn't overshadow the power of the story about two racist policemen (played by Ralph Brown and Rafe Spall) brutally interrogating a black suspect (Clint Dyer). Horrible twists await. (2010)

Olly Richards



Woman's realm (SCD, 1.10am)

## ON DEMAND

**This Fool** (Disney+)

This comedy drama by stand-up Chris Estrada is one of those shows that will be perfect by season two, but right now it is the kind of endearing viewing experience that is unashamedly rough around the edges. Estrada plays Julio, 30, who lives with

his family in working-class South Central Los Angeles, still dates his high-school sweetheart (Michelle Ortiz) and works for a minister (Michael Imperioli) trying to reform ex-prisoners and former gang members. Gentle with a playful warmth, it's not stuffed with one-liners but its depiction of the Mexican-American community and its self-deprecating tone may win you over.

**Shetland** (BBC iPlayer)

It is almost a decade since Douglas Henshall's DI Jimmy Perez first appeared on our screens and in that time he has been the reassuring constant in a Celtic crime series that continually wavered between the excellent and the ludicrous. This is his final season in the role and it's hard to say whether it will survive without his air of doomed, grizzled introspection.

**Cobra Kai** (Netflix)

Season four of this *Karate Kid* spin-off was the best yet, with Ralph Macchio and William Zabka leaning into their roles as the former teen martial-arts rivals turned dysfunctional adults. Episodes would shift from broad comedy to a scene of despair straight out of John Updike. Can they keep that up for season five, which starts this week? Here's hoping.

Andrew Male

**Tenet** (Amazon)

Christopher Nolan's films, from *Memento* to *Dunkirk* to *Interstellar*, do a lot of noodly meditation on time. The noodle gets a little too twisty, though, in this thriller about a spy (John David Washington) solving crime across time. When even the screenplay tells you not to try to understand the plot, things might be overly complex. The action is, of course, majestic. (2021) OR



## BBC3

- 7.00pm Top Gear** A trip through Wales in grand tourers.
- 8.00 The Fast And The Farmer-ish** Teams compete to be the best tractor drivers in England. (1/7) **8.30 The Fast And The Farmer-ish** Two teams from Northern Ireland rev up against each other.
- 9.00 Squad Goals — Dorking 'Til I Die** Calum Best takes over at Dorking Wanderers Ladies football club. (Series 3, ep 1) **9.30 Squad Goals — Dorking 'Til I Die** Calum is tested for the first time as chairman.
- 10.00 Deepfake Porn — You Could Be Next** The rising trend of harmless images being turned into hardcore porn.
- 11.00 This Country** Double bill.
- 11.50 Ladhood** Comedy series.
- 12.15 As 9pm**
- 1.15 As 10pm**
- 2.15 This Country** Comedy series.
- 3.10-4.00 Cuckoo** Comedy.

## DRAMA

- 12.00 The Bill** Police drama series.
- 1.00 Classic EastEnders** Soap.
- 2.20 Monarch Of The Glen**
- 3.20 A Place To Call Home** Drama.
- 4.20 All Creatures Great And Small** (Series 7, ep 8)
- 5.20 Birds Of A Feather** Comedy.
- 6.00 Are You Being Served?**
- 6.40 'Allo 'Allo!** Classic comedy.
- 7.20 Last Of The Summer Wine** Compo tries to find his old primary school girlfriend.
- 8.00 Dalziel & Pascoe** Dalziel becomes entangled with an old flame. (Series 10, ep 1)
- 10.00 New Tricks** The team investigates the death of a film critic. (Series 11, ep 5)
- 11.20 Spooks** Multiple terrorist attacks plunge Britain into chaos. (Series 5, ep 1)
- 12.40 Bad Girls** (Series 3, ep 9)
- 1.50 Les Misérables** Drama. (3/6)
- 3.05-4.00 Birds Of A Feather**

## FILMS

## SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

- 6.00am** Last Looks (2021, 15) **8.00** Monstrous (2022, 15) **9.50** American Carnage. Children of undocumented immigrants are put in detention, where they get a unique chance to win their freedom. (2022, 15) **11.40** A Journal For Jordan (2021, 12) **2.00** The 355 (2022, 12) **4.20** Monstrous (2022, 15) **6.10** Last Looks (2021, 15) **8.10** American Carnage. As 9.50am. **10.00** Scream. Twenty-five years after brutal murders shocked a town, a new killer dons a mask and targets teenagers. (2022, 18) **12.00** Jackass Forever (2022, 18) **1.40** A Journal For Jordan (2021, 12) **3.55-6.10** The 355 (2022, 12)

## SKY CINEMA THRILLER

- 2.20pm** The Saint (1997, 12) **4.30** Vantage Point (2008, 12) **6.15** Last Seen Alive (2022, 15) **8.00** Everest. Two expeditions climb the mountain, only to get caught up in a fierce snowstorm. (2015, 12) **10.05** The Babysitter. A teen receives a visit from drunkards who are obsessed with her. (1994, 18) **11.40** The Cold Light Of Day. A detective is determined to catch a serial killer targeting children. (1995, 15) **1.30-3.15** False Positive (2021, 15)

## BBC4

- 7.00pm Art, Passion & Power — The Story Of The Royal Collection** Series telling the story of the Royal Collection's remarkable resurrection. (2/4)
- 8.00 Keeping Up Appearances** Hyacinth plans to land a role in a musical production being rehearsed by Emmet.
- 8.30 Ever Decreasing Circles** Paul buys a neighbour's house. (Series 3, ep 3)
- 9.00 CHOICE Gorbachev. Heaven** An intimate documentary portrait of Mikhail Gorbachev. (See Critics' choice)
- 10.40 Ted Hughes — Stronger Than Death** How the poet's life shaped his work.
- 12.10 Sylvia Plath — Inside The Bell Jar** Exploring the semi-autobiographical novel.
- 1.10 The Normans** (3/3)
- 2.10-3.10 Art, Passion & Power — The Story Of The Royal Collection** Documentary.

## SKYARTS

- 6.00pm Alfred Hitchcock Presents:** Orderly World Of Appleby. An antiques dealer comes up with a plan to raise money to pay off a loan. **6.30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents:** Never Again. A woman finds herself in a cell for committing murder, but has no memory of what happened.
- 7.00 Discovering Elizabeth Taylor** Movie experts look back over the career of the actress.
- 8.00 Cezanne — Portraits Of A Life** A look at the life of the post-impressionist artist.
- 9.00 I, Claude Monet** Documentary exploring the artist's life.
- 10.00 Catherine The Great** Potemkin returns and hopes to begin a relationship with Catherine. (2/4)
- 11.10-12.45 The South Bank Show** A profile of Frank Skinner.

## ITV2

- 6.00pm Catchphrase** Tim Healy, Mark Wright and Alexandra Mardell play for charity.
- 7.00 Secret Crush** A drag sensation from Birmingham wants to sashay into the sunset with a fellow queen.
- 8.00 Bob's Burgers** Teddy tries to impress his ex-wife. (Series 7, ep 2) **8.30 Bob's Burgers** Tina turns to witchcraft.
- 9.00 Family Guy** Peter and his cronies decide to confront God. (Series 12, ep 13) **9.30 Family Guy** Chris learns he is the heir to Carter's fortune.
- 10.00 Plebs** Marcus is asked out by Gloria during the Roman festival of love. (Series 4, ep 5) **10.30 Plebs** The boys decide to attend a free trial session at a new bathhouse.
- 11.00 Family Guy** Stewie and Brian travel back to 17th-century Jamestown. (Series 12, ep 6)
- 11.30-12.25 American Dad!**

## ITV4

- 5.55pm Match Time Revisited**
- 7.00 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?** Quiz series.
- 8.00 World Superbike Highlights** The seventh round of the campaign in Magny-Cours.
- 9.00 FILM: Creed II** Stars Michael B Jordan and Sylvester Stallone. Heavyweight champion Adonis Creed faces off against Viktor, the son of Ivan Drago, whom his mentor Rocky Balboa fought in the 1980s. Decent sequel. (2018, 12; includes FYI Daily)
- 11.40 All Elite Wrestling — Rampage** Hard-hitting, high-flying wrestling action.
- 12.50 Auto Mundial** Motoring show.
- 1.20 Motorsport Mundial**
- 1.45 The Sweeney** Police drama.
- 2.40 Unwind** Daily relaxation.
- 3.00-6.00 Teleshopping** Goods.

## ITV3

- 6.00 Classic Coronation Street**
- 7.00 Classic Emmerdale** Soap.
- 8.05 That's My Boy** Sitcom.
- 9.15 The Royal** Hospital drama.
- 11.30 Heartbeat** Rural drama.
- 1.40 Classic Emmerdale** Soap.
- 2.45 Classic Coronation Street**
- 3.50 Poirot** When the sleuth's dentist is found dead, Chief Inspector Japp believes it to be suicide — but Poirot thinks otherwise. (Series 4, ep 3)
- 6.00 Heartbeat** Liz's past catches up with her. **7.00 Heartbeat** A mysterious marksman unleashes up his skills by killing Liz's ex-boyfriend.
- 8.00 Martin Clunes — Islands Of The Pacific** The actor begins his tour of the Pacific islands in French Polynesia.
- 9.00 Midsomer Murders** With Neil Dudgeon. When the body of a landowner goes missing on the night of his death, Barnaby, Nelson and forensic pathologist Kam Karimore are drawn into a macabre world of body-snatching.
- 11.00 Professor T** A criminologist helps police investigate a serial rapist. (Series 1, ep 1) **12.05 Professor T** A librarian is poisoned at a drinks reception at the museum.
- 1.10 The Royal** Hospital drama.
- 2.10 Unwind** Daily relaxation.
- 2.30-6.00 Teleshopping** Goods.



Sylvia Plath (BBC4, 12.10am)

## E4

- 6.00pm The Big Bang Theory** Penny feels threatened by a sexy woman. (Series 2, ep 19)
- 6.30 The Big Bang Theory** Penny begins dating comic-book shopkeeper Stuart.
- 7.00 Hollyoaks** Chester soap.
- 7.30 The Big Bang Theory** Leonard and Penny have an argument. (Series 3, ep 7)
- 8.00 Below Deck — Mediterranean** The crew tries to stream a football game while in the middle of the Mediterranean ocean.
- 9.00 Married At First Sight UK** Two grooms arrive alone to the second dinner party.
- 10.00 Celeb Cooking School** The contestants need to master pastry, but are shocked when chef Giorgio loses his cool over a quiche.
- 11.05-12.10 Naked Attraction** Singletons from Somerset and Coventry take part.

## MORE4

- 5.55pm Car SOS** Vehicle revamps.
- 6.55 Escape To The Chateau** Dick and Angel prepare for Angel's parents' 50th wedding anniversary.
- 7.55 The Yorkshire Dales And The Lakes** A Dales craftsman repairs an industrial relic and rescues a sheep that has plunged into a pothole.
- 9.00 Chernobyl — The New Evidence** A look at just how far Soviet leaders were willing to go to cover up the Chernobyl disaster. (2/2)
- 10.00 Japan's Tsunami — Caught On Camera** Amateur footage and eyewitness accounts of the disaster in March 2011.
- 11.20-12.25 24 Hours In A&E** A builder breaks his neck after falling off his shed, and he may need surgery to avoid damage to his spinal cord.

## ENTERTAINMENT

## GOLD

- 7.20am** Keeping Up Appearances **7.50** Outnumbered **8.25** 2point4 Children **9.00** Hi-De-Hi! **9.35** Still Open All Hours **10.15** Last Of The Summer Wine **11.30** Desmond's **12.05** 2point4 Children **12.40** Dad's Army **1.20** Outnumbered **2.00** Keeping Up Appearances **2.40** Last Of The Summer Wine **4.00** Dad's Army **4.40** Still Open All Hours **5.20** Keeping Up Appearances **6.00** Hi-De-Hi! **6.40** Dad's Army **8.00** Only Fools And Horses **8.40** Murder, They Hope. With Johnny Vegas and Sian Gibson **9.40** Bottom **11.00** This Time With Alan Partridge **11.40** Billy Connolly Does. **12.40** Peep Show **1.50** Murder, They Hope **2.50-4.00** Bottom

## SKY COMEDY

- 6.00pm** Futurama **6.30** Everybody Hates Chris **7.30** The US Office **9.00** The Rehearsal **9.35** Somebody Somewhere **10.15** Bounty Hunters **11.30** The Late Late Show **12.30** The Tonight Show **1.30** Entourage **4.00-5.00** Everybody Hates Chris

## SKY WITNESS

- 6.00pm** Nothing To Declare **8.00** Blue Bloods. Baker is assaulted on the street

## SKY CINEMA GREATS

- 6.15am** Sabrina (1995, PG) **8.35** Cry Macho (2021, 12) **10.25** The Ides Of March (2011, 15) **12.20** Lawrence Of Arabia (1962, PG) **4.00** Funny Face (1957, U) **6.00** The Spy Who Came In From The Cold. A spy fakes his resignation to venture undercover. (1965, PG) **8.00** The Italian Job. A crook plots to steal gold bullion and make a quick getaway in a fleet of Minis. (1969, PG) **9.45** Almost Famous. A teen journalist follows a rock band on tour and falls for a groupie. (2000, 15) **12.35** Cry Macho (2021, 12) **2.30** Carry On Teacher (1959, U) **4.15-6.00** Carry On Nurse (1959, PG)

## SKY CINEMA SELECT

- 3.50pm** Angels & Demons (2009, 12) **6.10** The Bourne Supremacy. The assassin is framed for a botched CIA operation. (2004, 12) **8.00** The Matrix Resurrections. To find out if his reality is a physical or mental construct, Mr Anderson has to choose to follow the white rabbit once more. (2021, 15) **10.30** The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo. A journalist and a computer hacker uncover a conspiracy. (2011, 18) **1.20** Promising Young Woman (2020, 15) **3.30** The Secret Garden (2020, PG) **5.20-6.00** Sky Cinema Preview

## FILM4

- 11.00am** Waterloo Road (1944, PG) **12.35** Border River (1954, U) **2.20** The Court-Martial Of Billy Mitchell (1955, U) **4.25** The Long Ships. A warrior leading a Viking crew in search of a bell of solid gold is captured by the Moors, who want it for themselves. (1963, PG) **7.05** Fantastic Four. Scientists return from another dimension having been granted unusual powers. (2015, 12) **9.00** Raiders Of The Lost Ark. Archaeologist Indiana Jones tries to locate the Ark of the Covenant before the Nazis get their hands on it. (1981, PG) **11.15-2.55** A Hidden Life (2019, 12)

## TALKING PICTURES TV

- 3.00pm** The Silent Enemy (1958, PG) **5.10** Night Mail II. Documentary film tracking the journey of a delivery train, accompanied by poetry by Blake Morrison, in tribute to WH Auden's verse form the 1930s Night Mail film. (1987, PG) **5.40** The Frozen North. A philandering cad sets out to seduce a neighbour's wife — only to meet with all manner of obstacles. (1922, U) **6.00** Scotland Yard **6.35** Night Was Our Friend. A man assumed dead plots revenge after learning his wife remarried. (1951, PG) **8.00** Maigret **9.05** Van Der Valk **11.15-12.15** Public Eye



# TALKTV

**6.00 James Max** Discussion.  
**6.30 The Julia Hartley-Brewer Breakfast Show** All the stories starting off the day.  
**10.00 The Independent Republic Of Mike Graham** A look at the morning newspapers.  
**1.00 Ian Collins** Monologues.  
**4.00 Vanessa Feltz** Tackling the big stories of the day.  
**7.00 The News Desk** Presenter Tom Newton Dunn tackles the biggest stories of the day.  
**8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored** The host presents his verdict on the day's global events.  
**9.00 The Talk** Panel debates.  
**10.00 Daisy McAndrew** Discussion of the day's big stories.  
**11.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored**  
**12.00 Petrie Hosken** News stories.  
**4.00 The Talk** Discussions.  
**5.00-6.00 James Max** Updates. Available on Sky 526; Freeview 237; Virgin 627; Freesat 217; YouTube, connected TVs and smart devices

# SKYMAX

**6.00pm Stargate SG-1** A Jaffa leader tries to form an alliance with Earth. (Series 5, ep 18, R) **7.00 Stargate SG-1** A dormant android is discovered on a planet and transported back to Earth. (R)  
**8.00 A League Of Their Own** With Aaron Ramsdale, Michael Sheen, Alex Brooker and Emily Attack. (R)  
**9.00 The Blacklist** Aram is feeling the weight of recent pressures and turns to an unusual outlet for a sense of release.(Series 9, ep 19, R)  
**10.00-12.00 The 74th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards** Kenan Thompson hosts the ceremony held at the Microsoft Theatre in Los Angeles, where Succession, Ted Lasso and The White Lotus lead the nominations.

**COMEDY CENTRAL**  
**8.00am** Most Ridiculous Sports **8.35** Most Ridiculous Party Crashers **9.00** Takeshi's Castle **10.00** Your Face Or Mine **11.00** Friends **9.00** FILM: Hot Shots! Part Deux. Stars Charlie Sheen **10.40** Ridiculousness **11.40** South Park **1.40** The Ricky Gervais Show **2.40** Bob's Burgers **3.50-5.00** Friends

**YESTERDAY**  
**6.00am** Warbird Workshop **8.00** Abandoned Engineering **9.00** The World At War **10.00** War Factories **11.00** Abandoned Engineering **12.00** The Architecture The Railways Built **1.00** Bangers And Cash **2.00** Abandoned Engineering **4.00** War Factories **5.00** The World At War **6.00** The Architecture The Railways Built **7.00** Abandoned Engineering. The Vajont Dam in Italy **8.00** Train Truckers **9.00** Bangers And Cash **11.00** Abandoned Engineering **12.00-1.00** The Architecture The Railways Built

**DAVE**  
**6.00pm** Taskmaster **7.00** House Of Games **7.40** Room 101 **8.20** Would I Lie To You? **9.00** QI XL **10.00** Live At The Apollo **11.00** Have I Got A Bit More News For You **12.00** Mock The Week **12.40** QI **1.15** QI XL **2.25** Room 101 **2.55** Would I Lie To You? **3.25-4.00** Mock The Week

# SKYATLANTIC

**6.00 Fish Town** Documentary.  
**7.45 Boardwalk Empire** Drama.  
**10.00 The Sopranos** Double bill.  
**12.15 Six Feet Under** Drama series.  
**2.25 Game Of Thrones** Qhorin gives Jon a chance to prove himself. (Series 2, ep 6)  
**3.30 Boardwalk Empire** Nucky vows to eliminate his nemesis Gyp Rosetti. (Series 3, ep 9)  
**4.40 Boardwalk Empire** Van Alden's business plan hits the buffers in Chicago.  
**5.45 The Sopranos** Junior has surgery for stomach cancer. (S3, ep 7) **6.50 The Sopranos** Tony's generosity pays off.  
**7.55 Game Of Thrones** Theon tries to prove his Ironborn status. (Series 2, ep 7)  
**9.00 Irma Vep** Mira experiences a spiritual breakthrough after a visit with Rene. (7/8)  
**10.05 House Of The Dragon** Game of Thrones prequel, with Paddy Considine. (4/10)  
**11.10 Munich Games** A Mossad agent must work with a German counterpart to prevent a terrorist attack. (1/6; German, Hebrew and Arabic with subtitles) **12.10 Munich Games** The Israeli investigation yields a lead.  
**1.10 Succession** (Series 1, ep 4)  
**2.20 The Affair** (Series 3, ep 10)  
**3.30 In Treatment** (Series 2, ep 19)  
**4.00-6.00 Fish Town** Insights.



Vegas and Gibson (Gold, 8.40pm)

# FACTUAL

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC**  
**6.00pm** Engineering New York Super Airport **7.00** Air Crash Investigation **8.00** Alaska — The Next Generation **9.00** Primal Survivor — Mighty Mekong. The Mekong's wildest waters **10.00** Running Wild **11.00** Air Crash Investigation **12.00** Car SOS **1.00-2.00** Wicked Tuna

**DISCOVERY**  
**6.00pm** Kindig Customs **7.00** Junkyard Empire **8.00** Railroad Alaska **9.00** Gold Rush **10.00** Gold Rush — Dave Turin's Lost Mine. An approaching snowstorm threatens to shut Team Turin down **11.00** Yukon Men **12.00** The Alaska Triangle **1.00-2.00** Gold Rush

**PBS AMERICA**  
**6.00pm** In Search Of Medieval Britain. Double bill **7.20 CHOICE** Europe's Forgotten Border. Events on the border between Czechoslovakia and the West during the Cold War. (See Critics' choice) **8.30** The Vietnam War **10.50-12.00** Europe's Forgotten Border

**SKY DOCUMENTARIES**  
**6.00am** Urban Secrets **7.00** Discovering Jack Nicholson **8.00** The Directors **9.00** The 2000s. Terrorism in America

# SPORT

**SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT**  
**6.00am** News **7.00** Good Morning Sports Fans **10.00** The Football Show **12.00** News **5.30 LIVE** Women's T20 Cricket: England v India. The second match of the series, at the County Ground in Derby **7.30 LIVE** EFL: Preston North End v Burnley. Kickoff at 8.00 **10.30** Gillette Labs Soccer Special **11.00** News **12.00** Total Access **1.00 LIVE** MLS: Minnesota United FC v Los Angeles FC. Kickoff at 1.00 **3.10** MLS Greatest Games **3.15-6.00** News

**EUROSPORT 1**  
**6.00am** Vuelta A España **7.00** Tennis — Best Of The Australian Open **8.00** Roland-Garros — Best Of 2022 **9.00** Athletics **10.30** Cycling. The Tour of Romania **11.00** 72 — A Gathering Of Champions **1.00** Vuelta A España **2.00 LIVE** Cycling. Coverage of the opening stage of the Tour Of Luxembourg **4.05** Cycling. The GP Fourmies **4.30 LIVE** Cycling. Coverage of stage one of the Tour Of Slovakia **6.00** Cycling. The Tour of Romania **7.00** Sailing — Spirit Of Yachting **7.30** Speedway Grand Prix **8.30** FIA World Endurance Championship **9.30** Showjumping **10.30** Cycling. The Tour of Luxembourg **11.30** Cycling. The Tour of Slovakia **12.30** Sailing — Spirit Of Yachting **1.00** Hall Of Fame: Athens 2004 **2.00** Cycling. The Tour of Slovakia **3.00** Cycling. The Tour of Luxembourg **4.00-6.00** Speedway Grand Prix

**BT SPORT 1**  
**6.00am** ESPN FC **6.30** Uefa Champions League Goals Reload **6.45** Uefa Europa League Goals Reload **7.00** Uefa Europa League & Conference League Magazine **8.00** Premier League Review **9.00** Premiership Rugby Highlights **10.30** Goals Reload **10.45** Uefa Champions League Goals Reload **11.00 LIVE** Uefa Youth League: Sporting Lisbon U19 v Tottenham Hotspur U19. At Stadium Aurelio Pereira. Kickoff 11.00 **1.00** ESPN FC **1.30** Premier League **3.00 LIVE** Uefa Youth League: Liverpool U19 v Ajax U19. Kickoff at 3.00 **5.00** ESPN FC **5.30 LIVE** Uefa Champions League: Viktoria Plzen v Inter Milan. Kickoff at 5.45 **7.45** UCL Goals Show **10.15** Down The Clubhouse **11.15** Premier League Reload **11.30** Premiership Rugby Highlights **1.00 LIVE** WWE NXT **3.15** Ligue 1 Highlights **4.15** Classic Ligue 1 **5.45-6.00** What I Wore

**10.00** Catch And Kill —The Podcast Tapes **11.00** The Vietnam War **12.00** Quant **1.50** The Real Charlie Chaplin **4.00** The Directors **5.00** Discovering Jack Nicholson **6.00** The 2000 **7.00** Catch And Kill — The Podcast Tapes **8.00** The Vietnam War **9.00** The Last Movie Stars **10.05-12.20** JFK Revisited — Through The Looking Glass

**SKY NATURE**  
**6.00am** Wild Workers **7.00** Africa's Hidden Kingdoms **8.00** Monkey Life **9.00** Big Cat Country **10.00** Into The Wild **11.00** Brazil Untamed **12.00** Arabian Inferno **1.00** Monkey Life **2.00** Africa's Hidden Kingdoms **3.00** Into The Wild **4.00** Big Cat Country **5.00** Brazil Untamed **6.00** Arabian Inferno **7.00** Monkey Life **8.00** Alien Abyss **9.00** Amazing Animal Friends **10.00** Brazil Untamed **11.00-12.00** Arabian Inferno

**SMITHSONIAN**  
**6.00am** Aerial America **7.00** Air Warriors **10.00** Food Factories — How They Work **12.00** United States Of Drinking **1.00** Sacred Sites **3.00** Yellowstone Supervolcano **4.00** Food Factories — How They Work **6.00** Searching For Secrets **7.00** Inside The Factory **8.00** The Pacific War In Colour **10.00** WWII Battles In Colour **11.00-12.00** The Pacific War In Colour

# RADIO



## Icon

**Radio 4, 11.30am**  
Looking at our relationship with fame and celebrity via the life of Elizabeth Taylor, pictured. **In The Studio** (BBC World Service, 11.30am) talks to Bradley Hemmings, the man behind the opening ceremony of the London Paralympics. Shahid Iqbal Khan's play **Love Across The Ages** (Radio 4, 2.15pm) tackles love between two Muslim men from Iran in the year 815 through to modern-day Bradford. *Clair Woodward*

### RADIO 4

**5.30** News **5.43** Prayer **5.45** Farming Today **5.58** Tweet Of The Day (R) **6.00** Today **8.31** (LW) Yesterday In Parliament **9.00** The Life Scientific. Judith Bunbury reflects on the Sahara Desert **9.30** One To One **9.45** Book Of The Week **9.45** (LW) Daily Service **10.00** Woman's Hour **11.00** The Curious Cases Of Rutherford & Fry **11.30** Icon. New series. The celebrity culture that enveloped Elizabeth Taylor **12.00** News **12.01** (LW) Shipping **12.04** Call You And Yours **1.00** The World At One **1.45** The Boy In The Woods **2.00** The Archers (R) **2.15** Drama: Love Across The Ages **3.00** Short Cuts **3.30** Costing The Earth **4.00** The Listening Project **4.30** Great Lives. George Lascelles, Seventh Earl of Harewood, is nominated by Lesley Garrett **5.00 PM 5.54** (LW) Shipping **6.00** News **6.30** Alone **7.00** The Archers **7.15** Front Row **8.00** File On 4. British victims of trafficking **8.40** In Touch **9.00** Can The Police Keep Us Safe? The question of policing in the modern age (R) **9.30** The Life Scientific (R) **10.00** The World Tonight **10.45** Book At Bedtime **11.00** Fortunately **11.30** Today In Parliament **12.00** News **12.30** Book Of The Week (R) **12.48** Shipping **1.00** As World Service

### TIMES RADIO

**5.00** Anna Cunningham With Early Breakfast **6.00** Aasmah Mir And Stig Abell With Times Radio Breakfast **10.00** Matt Chorley **1.00** Mariella Frostrup. Conversation about the issues that matter **4.00** John Pienaar At Drive **7.00** Henry Bonsu **10.00** Carole Walker. Late-night headlines **1.00** Stories Of Our Times. The Times's daily podcast **1.30** Red Box. Matt Chorley's politics podcast **2.00** Highlights From Times Radio

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### RADIO 4 EXTRA

**5.00** Hazelbeach **5.30** Mark Steel's In Town **6.00** Death May Surprise Us **6.30** Agatha Raisin **7.00** The Break **7.30** Alone **8.00** The Goon Show **8.30** King Street Junior **9.00** The News Quiz **9.30** The Older Woman **10.00** No 1 Ladies' Detective Agency **10.45** Short Works **11.00** Music Hall Reclaimed **12.00** The Goon Show **12.30** King Street Junior **1.00** Death May Surprise Us **1.30** Agatha Raisin **2.00** Adventures Of A Young Naturalist **2.15** Eleanor Rising **2.30** The Hotel Suite **3.00** No 1 Ladies' Detective Agency **3.45** Short Works **4.00** The 3rd Degree **4.30** The Older Woman **5.00** The Break **5.30** Alone **6.00** Journey Into Space **6.30** Soul Music **7.00** The Goon Show **7.30** King Street Junior **8.00** Death May Surprise Us **8.30** Agatha Raisin **9.00** Music Hall Reclaimed **10.00** Alone **10.30** Think The Unthinkable **11.00** Party **11.30-12.00** I've Never Seen Star Wars

### LBC

**7.00** Nick Ferrari **10.00** James O'Brien **1.00** Shelagh Fogarty **4.00** Tom Swarbrick **6.00** Tonight With Andrew Marr **7.00** Iain Dale **10.00** Ian Payne **1.00** Darren Adam **4.00** Steve Allen

### RADIO 3

**6.30** Breakfast **9.00** Essential Classics **12.00** Composer Of The Week **1.00** Lunchtime Concert. Chamber music highlights from last month's Machynlleth festival, with the Navarra Quartet joining forces with the double bassist Leon Bosch in Dvorak's String Quintet, Op 77 **2.00** Afternoon Concert. A concert given by the Verbier Festival Orchestra featuring works by Bartok and Shostakovich **5.00** In Tune. Music and arts news **7.00** In Tune Mixtape **7.30** In Concert. Recorded at the Usher Hall in Edinburgh, Donald Runnicles and the BBC SSO perform Respighi's Pines Of Rome and Carl Orff's Carmina Burana **10.00** Free Thinking. John Gallagher and guests look at language during the Age of Exploration, including the enigmatic lingua franca — the bridge used when people from different countries meet **10.45** The Essay. Tina Kelberman shares her story of growing up in a Jewish household using British Sign Language, and how sign language has been passed down the generations and has evolved **11.00** Night Tracks **12.30** Through The Night

### CLASSIC FM

**6.00** Tim Lihoreau **9.00** Alexander Armstrong **12.00** Anne-Marie Minhall **4.00** John Brunning **7.00** Zeb Soanes **10.00** Margherita Taylor **1.00** Karthi Gnanasegaram **4.00** Lucy Coward

### RADIO 2

**6.30** The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show **9.30** Ken Bruce **12.00** Jeremy Vine **2.00** Steve Wright **5.00** Sara Cox **7.00** Jo Whiley **9.00** The Jazz Show With Jamie Cullum **10.00** Trevor Nelson's Magnificent 7. Essential throwbacks **12.30** Trevor Nelson's Rhythm Nation **10.00** OJ Borg **3.00** Pick Of The Pops (R) **4.00** Nikki Chapman

### VIRGIN RADIO

**6.30** The Chris Evans Breakfast Show **10.00** Eddy Temple-Morris **1.00** Tim Cocker **4.00** Jayne Middlemiss **7.00** Steve Denyer **10.00** Olivia Jones **1.00** Sean Goldsmith **4.00** Steve Denyer

### TALKSPORT

**5.00** Early Breakfast **6.00** Breakfast With Laura Woods **1.00** Jim White And Simon Jordan **1.00** Hawksbee & Baker **4.00** Drive With Andy Goldstein And Darren Bent **7.00** Kick Off **10.00** Sports Bar **12.00** Extra Time



**6.00 Breakfast** The latest reports.  
**9.15 Morning Live** Magazine.  
**10.00 Dom Does America** (R)  
**10.45 Claimed And Shamed** (R)  
**11.15 Homes Under The Hammer** Properties at auction. (R)  
**12.15 Bargain Hunt** Curios. (R)  
**1.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**1.45 Doctors** Al's relief at solving the mystery is short-lived; and Ruhma meets two women who are due to give birth at the same time.  
**2.15 Money For Nothing** Items include an oak serving table and some splash-back glass.  
**3.00 Escape To The Country** Alistair Appleton visits rural Perth and Kinross. (R)  
**3.45 The Bidding Room** Items include two unique mirrors, a Russian-themed barometer and an ice shaver. (R)  
**4.30 Antiques Road Trip** Raj Bisram and Irita Marriott search Oxfordshire.  
**5.15 Pointless** Unorthodox quiz.  
**6.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**6.30 Regional News** Update.  
**7.00 The One Show** Features.  
**7.30 EastEnders** The atmosphere at the church grows awkward as Phil anxiously waits for news on his bride-to-be's whereabouts, unaware that Alfie is trying to win her back.  
**8.00 The Repair Shop** The craftspeople get to work on a secret radio used during the Second World War, a pair of vintage seamstress scissors, a 74-year-old teddy bear and a battered school satchel.  
**9.00 Shetland** With Douglas Henshall. The team races to identify the killer and prevent disaster striking the town; and as the investigation draws to a close, Perez faces a life-changing decision. (Last in series)  
**10.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**10.40 CHOICE Rush** Stars Chris Hemsworth and Daniel Bruhl. The Formula 1 racers James Hunt and Niki Lauda develop a fierce rivalry over the course of the 1976 championship. (2013, 15; see Critics' choice)  
**12.30 Ladhood** (Series 3, ep 3, R)  
**1.00-6.00 Joins BBC News**  
**SCOTLAND 2.15** Politics Scotland.  
**3.00 Money For Nothing. 6.30** Reporting Scotland; Weather. **12.30** Scottish Questions. **1.00** The Edit.  
**1.15** Ladhood. **1.45** BBC News.

**6.30 Escape To The Country** (R)  
**7.15 Antiques Road Trip** (R)  
**8.00 Gardeners' World** (Signed, R)  
**9.00 News; Weather** Update.  
**11.15 Politics Live** Discussion.  
**1.00 Chase The Case** Game. (R)  
**1.45 Eggheads** Team quiz. (R)  
**2.15 Glorious Gardens From Above** In Oxfordshire. (R)  
**3.00 Flipping Profit** In Ludlow. (R)  
**3.45 Wanted — A Simple Life** (R)  
**4.30 Murder, Mystery And My Family** Investigation. (R)  
**5.15 Flog It!** In South Ayrshire. (R)  
**6.00 House Of Games** With Rob Deering, Katya Jones, Jayne Middlemiss and Phil Tufnell.  
**6.30 Unbeatable** General knowledge quiz show, hosted by Jason Manford.  
**7.00 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip** The comedian Dom Joly and the actor Pauline McLynn are in Lancashire with James Braxton and Philip Serrell, buying antique bamboo and teapots. (R)  
**8.00 CHOICE Mary Berry — Cook & Share** The cook visits Bristol, where she shares dishes including shakshuka, and pear and blueberry galette, before sampling a Michelin-star menu. (See Critics' choice)  
**8.30 CHOICE Nadiya's Everyday Baking** Nadiya Hussain shares the speediest of her bakes, which are easy enough to rustle up any day of the week, including a traditional quiche and a snickerdoodle. (See Critics' choice)  
**9.00 CHOICE Days That Shook** The BBC Exploring the BBC's relationship with the British people, and considering Radio 2's Sachsgate affair, which resulted in thousands of complaints. (See Critics' choice; last in series)  
**10.00 QI** Ed Gamble, Lou Sanders and Sindhu Vee join regular Alan Davies on the comedy panel quiz, with host Sandi Toksvig asking questions on the topic of the seaside. (R)  
**10.30 Newsnight** The day's events.  
**11.15 Unspun World With John Simpson** Discussing the week's global news stories.  
**11.40 The Boys From Brazil — Rise Of The Bolsonaros** Taking a look at Jair Bolsonaro's campaign for the 2018 presidential election. (2/3, R)  
**12.40 Ambulance** (Signed, R)  
**1.40-2.45 All That Glitters — Britain's Next Jewellery Star** Contest. (Signed, R)

**6.00 Good Morning Britain**  
**9.00 Lorraine** Lifestyle chat.  
**10.00 This Morning** Features.  
**12.30 Loose Women** Debate.  
**1.30 News; Weather** Reports.  
**2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal**  
**3.00 Tenable** A team of five podcast-producing friends try to answer questions.  
**4.00 Tipping Point** Gameshow.  
**5.00 The Chase** Quiz show hosted by Bradley Walsh.  
**6.00 Regional News** Update.  
**6.30 News; Weather** Reports.  
**7.30 Emmerdale** Harriet informs an anxious Kim that they have not found Millie, and Charity is thrilled when Mack surprises her with a trip.  
**8.00 Coronation Street** As a nervous Toyah heads to court, Leanne begs her not to say something she will regret; and Zeedan and Stu prepare for Sean's birthday party.  
**9.00 Doc Martin** The surgery is chaotic, with both Martin and Louisa now practising from it; Bert's new business venture with Al does not get off to a good start; and Penhale suspects noise complaints are due to paranormal activity. (Series 10, ep 2)  
**10.00 News At Ten** Bulletin.  
**10.45 Peston** Political magazine, presented by Robert Peston.  
**11.40 Heathrow — Britain's Busiest Airport** An officer deals with cargo trying to enter the country involving frozen chicken; and there is a surprise for passengers flying to Heathrow's top European destination. (R)  
**12.05 English Football League Highlights** Action from the latest fixtures, including West Bromwich Albion v Birmingham City. (R)  
**1.20 Teleshopping** Goods.  
**3.00 For The Love Of Britain** (R)  
**3.25 Unwind** Daily relaxation.  
**4.40-6.00 The Masked Dancer** (R)



Speedy: Nadiya (BBC2, 8.30pm)

**6.10 Countdown** Gameshow. (R)  
**6.50 3rd Rock From The Sun** (R)  
**7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond** Family comedy series. (R)  
**9.00 Frasier** American sitcom. (R)  
**10.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA** Advice. (R)  
**11.25 News; Weather** Reports.  
**11.30 The Great House Giveaway** A home in south Wales. (R)  
**12.30 Steph's Packed Lunch**  
**2.10 Countdown** Gameshow.  
**3.00 A Place In The Sun** Advice. (R)  
**4.00 Chateau DIY** Insights.  
**5.00 Moneybags** Quiz show.  
**6.00 The Simpsons** Homer becomes a food critic. (R)  
**6.30 Hollyoaks** Sam confides in Lizzie and Ethan, who tell him to come clean to Zoe. (R)  
**7.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**8.00 Changing Rooms** Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen, Jordan Cluore and Russell Whitehead are in Berkshire, helping two sets of neighbours make over a bedroom and a sitting room. (Last in series)  
**9.00 Grand Designs** Kevin McCloud follows the progress of a man who promised his wife and children he would build them an ambitious super-modern underground home on a hill outside Canterbury, but he faces delays and rising costs.  
**10.00 Football Dreams — The Academy** The documentary focuses on the under-18s, one of country's best sides, including a player who is coming back from injury and is desperate to prove his worth. (Last in series)  
**11.05 The Great** Elizabeth pronounces that Catherine's baby will be born in five days, but when conflict with the Ottomans heightens, Catherine tries to run the country while on bed rest. (Series 2, ep 8)  
**12.20 Inside The Superbrands:** Typhoo. Helen Skelton goes behind the scenes and meets the team charged with reinvigorating one of the UK's biggest tea brands. (R)  
**1.15 Rosie Jones' Trip Hazard** With Friday Night Dinner star Tom Rosenthal to Bradford. (R)  
**2.10 A Very British Job Agency** Documentary. (1/3, R)  
**3.05 Car SOS** Renovations. (R)  
**3.55 Amazing Spaces** (R)  
**4.50 The Great Home Transformation** (R)  
**5.45-6.10 Drawers Off** (R)

**6.00 Milkshake!** Fun for children.  
**9.15 Jeremy Vine** Debate.  
**12.45 Holiday Homes In The Sun**  
**1.40 News; Weather** Reports.  
**1.45 Home And Away** Cash is in critical condition; and Felicity unleashes her stress on Rose.  
**2.15 My Husband's Secret Life** Thriller, with Kara Killmer and Brett Donahue. A woman discovers her husband is leading a dangerous double life after a sudden accident leaves him in a coma. (R)  
**4.00 Bargain-Loving Brits In The Sun** A cosmetics saleswoman begins a new business venture. (R)  
**5.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**6.00 Cash In The Attic** Curios.  
**6.55 News; Weather** Reports.  
**7.00 The Highland Vet** A seal is brought in to the large animal wing, but may be too ill to return to the wild; and a rescue dog in training for police duties needs a delicate procedure. (R)  
**7.55 News; Weather** Reports.  
**8.00 Police Interceptors** Documentary following the work of a high-speed police interception unit.  
**9.00 Casualty 24/7 — Every Second Counts** An 83-year-old man is rushed in with suspected sepsis; and paramedics race to help a woman who has fallen out of her vehicle after getting her foot tangled in her handbag strap.  
**10.00 Ambulance — Code Red** A critical care practitioner is dispatched to a double stabbing at a block of flats in Birmingham, and must prioritise which of the victims needs to be treated first. (R)  
**11.05 A&E After Dark** When a 70-year-old arrives at Hull Royal Infirmary with a dangerously high heart rate, the medical team have to act fast to prevent him going into cardiac arrest. (R)  
**12.05 999 — Criminals Caught On Camera** A fake robbery is caught on camera. (R)  
**1.00 The Leo Vegas Live Casino Show** Interactive gambling.  
**3.00 Entertainment News Gossip.**  
**3.05 Britain's Favourite Cleaning Product** Counting down the best sprays, liquids and sponges, as voted for by the public. (R)  
**4.45 Amazing Cakes & Bakes** (R)  
**5.30-6.00 Children's Shows**

## VARIATIONS

**BBC1 WALES 10.40** The Emiliano Sala Story **11.10** Rewind — 60 Years Of Welsh Pop **11.40** FILM: Rush **1.30** BBC News **S4C 6.00** Cyw: Blociau Rhif **6.05** Do Re Mi Dona **6.20** Sam Tan **6.30** Sbarc **6.45** Anifeiliad Bach Y Byd **6.55** Nos Da Cyw **7.05** Cei Bach **7.20** Odo **7.30** Odonots **7.45** Fferm Fach **8.00** Ty Mel **8.10** Halibaw **8.20** Rapsgalwif **8.35** Sion Y Chef **8.45** Antur Natur Cyw **9.00** Y Crads Bach **9.05** Stiwi **9.20** Byd Tad-Cu **9.30** Patrol Pawennau **9.45** Gwdihw **10.00** Blociau Rhif

**10.05** Do Re Mi Dona **10.20** Sam Tan **10.30** Sbarc **10.45** Anifeiliad Bach Y Byd **11.00** Dysgu Gyda Cyw: Meripwsan **11.05** Do Re Mi Dona **11.20** Timpo **11.30** Jen A Jim Pob Dim **11.45** Stiwi **12.00** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **12.05** Cwprddd Epic Chris **12.30** Heno **1.00** Caeau Cymru **1.30** Garddio A Mwy **2.00** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **2.05** Prynhawn Da **3.00** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **3.05** Gwesty Aduniad **4.00** Awr Fawr: Odo **4.10** Sam Tan **4.20** Byd Tad-Cu **4.30** Odonots **4.45** Fferm Fach

**5.00** Stwnsh: Oi! Osgar **5.10** Dreigiau — Marchogion Berc **5.35** Itopia **5.55** Ffeil **6.00** Trysorau Cymru — Tir, Tai A Chyfrinachau **6.30** Rownd A Rownd **6.57** Newyddion **7.00** Heno **7.30** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **8.00** Pobol Y Cwm **8.25** Cegin Bryn — Yn Ffrainc. Bryn Williams ends his French journey in Nice **8.55** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **9.00** Symud I Gymru. New series. Potential house buyers are shown homes within their budget **10.00** Ty Am Ddim **11.00-11.35** Dim Byd I'w Wisgo

## YOU SAY

Why is there never any taxidermy on **The Repair Shop** (BBC1)?  
**Graham Milsom**

When is **Grand Designs** (C4) going to be renamed **Vanity Projects**?  
**Pauline Jordan**

**Sunday With Laura Kuenssberg** (BBC1): irritating CBBC-style set and furniture. Presentation like a gaudy gameshow.  
**David Durrant**



## CRITICS' CHOICE

**Days That Shook The BBC (BBC2, 9pm)**

Starting with the "Sachsgate" scandal – Jonathan Ross and Russell Brand's ill-advised 2008 prank-calling antics – this instalment of BBC self-examination sees David Dimbleby asking what happens when the organisation finds itself "on collision course with its audience". It's a complicated, provocative film that touches on big ethical questions as Dimbleby investigates the BBC's record of sexual and racial equality. There are startling moments, not least when producer Tony Laryea challenges Dimbleby himself on his commitment to diversity. Other case studies include reports from the Falklands War and the appearance of the BNP's Nick Griffin on *Question Time*.  
*Victoria Segal*



Sachs, lies and audio tape: Jonathan Ross and Russell Brand look shaken (BBC2, 9pm)

Wish you could fly right up to the sky?

**The Orville (Amazon/Disney+)**

If you've tried all the various, current *Star Trek* franchises and found yourself longing for the simpler comforts of the original series or *Star Trek: Next Generation*, have you considered **The Orville**? Created by and starring *Family Guy*'s Seth MacFarlane as an unashamedly nostalgic love letter to the character-led pleasures of 20th-century space TV, it is a show that has grown in scale since its 2017 network debut. Ditching MacFarlane's off-colour humour, the show has developed a rich and loveable cast of characters, and embraced deep sci-fi narratives. Season three, made with Disney money, is the best yet and, for some, the best "Star Trek" series currently on our screens.  
*Andrew Male*

**The Last Voices of World War One (PBS America, 8.40pm)**

First shown in 2009, by which time many of the heroic gentlemen whose voices contributed to this archive had already passed away, this still-peerless series tells the story of the Great War via the recollections of the idealistic young men who signed up at the first point of Kitchener's finger. It was a journey from youthful exuberance to ghastly experience, joining Pals Battalions with their peers (a recruiting strategy that all too often took the young men of whole villages), of marching through France cheered on by mademoiselles, and then the ominous booms of endless German shelling. "Ah, then we began to shake," says one.  
*Helen Stewart*

**Mary Berry — Cook & Share (BBC2, 8pm)**

Berry revisits old Bristol haunts tonight, in between kitchen stints, and even cooks al fresco on a terrace above the Avon. Her recipes sometimes nod to non-European cuisines (a northern African breakfast dish, an east Asian stir fry) but also include Tuscan chicken and pear galette.



Leone Ross (Sky Arts, 8pm)

**Sky Arts Book Club (Sky Arts, 8pm)**

Elizabeth Day and Andi Oliver's guests are the Jamaican-heritage novelist Leone Ross and the *Anatomy of a Scandal* author Sarah Vaughan. It is a lively show – notably in a final section in which everyone suggests new endings for literary classics – but feels as if it was filmed a while ago.

**Nadiya's Everyday Baking (BBC2, 8.30pm)**

"Speedy bakes" is the theme of an episode featuring recipes for a filo-based alternative to quiche, Thai-style fish with noodles, a cake using two ice-cream flavours, and chocolate cookies with "secret" centres. Two sweet treats out of four dishes, Mrs Hussain?  
*John Dugdale*

## FILM CHOICE

**Rush (BBC1, 10.40pm)**

You don't need to have much interest in Formula One to enjoy director Ron Howard's drama about the rivalry between the 1970s drivers James Hunt and Niki Lauda. This movie amounts to a simple clash between two extremely talented men: the meticulous, quiet Austrian Lauda (played by Daniel Bruhl) and the fast-living British playboy Hunt (Chris Hemsworth). The actors well convey the (mostly) friendly rivalry between the drivers and Howard stages some astonishing racing sequences, thrillingly edited by Daniel P Hanley and Mike Hill. (2013)

**Divergent (BBC3, 9pm)**

The premise of this movie is preposterous: in a future dystopia, people have one personality trait (honest, brave, etc) and anyone with more than one is considered dangerous. Yet there is still a fun "second-tier *Hunger Games*" energy to Neil Burger's sci-fi. (2014)  
*Olly Richards*



In a hurry: Bruhl (BBC1, 10.40pm)

## ON DEMAND

**Bad Sisters (Apple TV+)**

Sharon Horgan's remake of *The Out-Laws*, a 2012 Flemish TV black comedy formerly available on Walter Presents, may be one of the most outright enjoyable comedy thrillers of the year. Beyond the central murder-mystery – concerning the

various attempts by four Irish sisters, Eva, Ursula, Bibi and Becka, to kill the abusive husband of the fifth, Grace – this is a warm and profound depiction of sibling friendship. Anne-Marie Duff, Eve Hewson, Eva Birthistle, Sarah Greene and Horgan herself are all exceptional as the siblings but special mention should go to Claes Bang, who portrays the villainous spouse with an almost operatic relish.

**Monitor (BBC iPlayer)**

Overseen by the great Huw Wheldon, this arts programme ran from 1958 to 1965 and gave work to such talents as Ken Russell, John Schlesinger, John Berger and Melvyn Bragg. The iPlayer only has six episodes to view at the moment but they include Russell's 1962 film on British art, *Pop Goes the Easel* and an encounter between the poets John Betjeman and Philip Larkin.

**Barbaric Genius (Netflix)**

This 2012 film by Paul Duane closely follows John Healy, a former vagrant and alcoholic turned championship chess player – and author – as he recounts his battles with the publishing industry and a life on the margins of acceptance. Fragmentary, elusive, not always reliable, it remains a film that perfectly captures Healy's evanescent nature.  
*Andrew Male*

**Where Is Anne Frank? (Curzon Home Cinema)**

Ari Folman, the director of *Waltz with Bashir*, returns with another emotionally powerful animated film. It finds a new way to tell the story of Anne Frank by suggesting her diary entries were written to an imaginary friend, Kitty, who is "resurrected" in the modern world and finds people love Anne but haven't followed her message of kindness. (2022) OR



## BBC3

- 7.00pm Top Gear** A race around a deserted Alton Towers.
- 8.00 Gassed Up** Rapper Mist takes on entrepreneur Spencer Matthews in a challenge. (6/6)
- 8.50 Zen Motoring** A former battle rapper gives his guide to being a zen driver. (1/6)
- 9.00 CHOICE Divergent** Stars Shailene Woodley and Theo James. A teenager growing up in a strictly ordered future society discovers a conspiracy to wipe out a group of outsiders. (2014, 12; see Film choice)
- 11.10 Deepfake Porn — You Could Be Next** The rising trend of harmless images being turned into hardcore porn.
- 12.10 The Rap Game UK**
- 1.10 Gassed Up** Challenge series.
- 2.00 Squad Goals — Dorking 'Til I Die** Double bill of the series.
- 3.00-4.00 The Rap Game UK**

## DRAMA

- 12.00 The Bill** Police drama series.
- 1.00 Classic EastEnders** Soap.
- 2.20 Monarch Of The Glen**
- 3.20 A Place To Call Home** Drama.
- 4.20 All Creatures Great And Small** Rural drama series.
- 5.20 Birds Of A Feather** Comedy.
- 6.00 Are You Being Served?**
- 6.40 'Allo 'Allo!** Classic comedy.
- 7.25 Last Of The Summer Wine**
- 8.00 The Coroner** Mick is suspected of murdering a rival landlord. (Series 2, ep 5)
- 9.00 Whitechapel** A played human face is found at an art gallery. (Series 4, ep 3)
- 10.00 New Tricks** A Roman sword leads the team to a headless corpse. (Series 11, ep 6)
- 11.20 Spooks** Harry is taken prisoner. (Series 5, ep 2)
- 12.40 Bad Girls** Prison drama.
- 1.50 Les Misérables** Drama series.
- 3.05-4.00 Birds Of A Feather**

## FILMS

## SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

- 6.10am** The Cinema List: Unlikely Heroes **6.25** Stowaway (2022, 15) **8.00** Jockey (2021, 15) **9.45** Last Looks (2021, 15) **11.55** The 355 (2022, 12) **2.10** Murder At Yellowstone City (2022, 15) **4.25** Stowaway. As 6.25am. **6.10** American Carnage (2022, 15) **8.00** The 355. As 11.55am. **10.10** Scream. Stars Neve Campbell. Twenty-five years after brutal murders shocked a quiet town, a new killer targets a group of teenagers. (2022, 18) **12.10** Last Looks. As 9.45am. **2.10** American Carnage. As 6.10pm. **4.00** Jockey. As 8am. **5.45-6.15** Sky Cinema Preview

## SKY CINEMA THRILLER

- 2.10pm** Three Days Of The Condor (1975, 15) **4.15** Confessions Of A Dangerous Mind (2002, 15) **6.15** Teaching Mrs Tingle. A teenager kidnaps the teacher who has thwarted her ambitions to win a university scholarship. (1999, 15) **8.00** The Family. A gangster and his family go into witness protection in rural France, but cannot resist returning to crime. (2013, 15) **10.10** Three Days Of The Condor. As 2.10pm. **12.00-2.20** Legend (2015, 18)

## BBC4

- 7.00pm Art, Passion & Power — The Story Of The Royal Collection** Insights. (3/4)
- 8.00 South Pacific** A look at efforts to preserve the region's marine life. (6/6)
- 9.00 The Human Body — Secrets Of Your Life Revealed** The way experiences shape the mind and body. (3/3)
- 10.00 Christopher Eccleston Remembers — Our Friends In The North** The actor looks back on the 1996 drama.
- 10.10 Our Friends In The North** Drama charting 30 years in the eventful lives of four friends from the northeast of England. (1/9) **11.20 Our Friends In The North** Georgie lands a job with a porn baron. **12.25 Our Friends In The North** Georgie finds success in the adult film industry.
- 1.35 As 7pm**
- 2.35-3.35 As 9pm**

## SKYARTS

- 6.00pm Alfred Hitchcock Presents:** The Gentleman From America. An American bets £1,000 he can spend the night in a haunted room.
- 6.30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents:** The Baby Sitter. A babysitter is the centre of attention after a murder.
- 7.00 Landscape Artist Of The Year 2017** The contestants paint an imposing steelworks.
- 8.00 CHOICE Sky Arts Book Club** Andi Oliver and Elizabeth Day are joined by Leone Ross and Sarah Vaughan to discuss their books This One Sky Day and Anatomy of a Scandal. (See Critics' choice)
- 9.00 Blitzed — The 80s Blitz Kids' Story** The history of the Blitz nightclub in Covent Garden.
- 11.00-12.00 The Seventies** A look at the evolution of terrorism.

## ITV2

- 6.00pm Celebrity Catchphrase**
- 7.00 Secret Crush** A woman is going all out for her crush and soon-to-be housemate.
- 8.00 Bob's Burgers** Bob secures a new meat provider who claims to save money on every order. (Series 7, ep 4)
- 8.30 Bob's Burgers** Bob and Linda get into trouble with their accountant.
- 9.00 Gordon, Gino And Fred — American Road Trip** Gordon Ramsay, Gino D'Acampo and Fred Sirieix head to San Francisco in California, the free-spirited capital of America.
- 10.00 Family Guy** Peter takes up smoking. (Series 12, ep 15)
- 10.30 Family Guy** Brian passes on herpes to Stewie.
- 11.00 Family Guy** Peter and Quagmire form a singer-songwriter partnership.
- 11.30 -12.25 American Dad!**

## ITV4

- 5.55pm Match Time Revisited**
- 7.00 Women's International Rugby Union:** England v Wales. Live coverage of the friendly match at Ashton Gate in Bristol, as the teams fine-tune preparations for the World Cup. Jill Douglas presents, with analysis from Maggie Alphonsi and Philippa Tuttiett and commentary by Nick Mullins and Nollie Waterman. Kickoff at 7.30.
- 10.00 Made In Britain** A look at craftsmen making acoustic guitars fit for the stars.
- 10.30 English Football League Highlights** Action from the latest fixtures, including Norwich City v Bristol City.
- 12.00 Brothers In Football**
- 1.55 The Saint** Drama series.
- 2.55 Unwind** Daily relaxation.
- 3.00-6.00 Teleshopping** Goods.

## ITV3

- 6.00 Classic Coronation Street**
- 7.00 Classic Emmerdale** Soap.
- 8.05 That's My Boy** Sitcom.
- 9.15 The Royal** Hospital drama.
- 11.30 Heartbeat** Rural drama.
- 1.40 Classic Emmerdale** Soap.
- 2.45 Classic Coronation Street**
- 3.50 Poirot** The Belgian detective falls for the chief suspect in a series of jewel thefts. (Series 3, ep 7) **4.55 Poirot** A lavish dinner party proves to be a prelude to murder.
- 6.00 Heartbeat** The residents are up in arms over lorries rumbling through the village on their way to a quarry. **7.00 Heartbeat** Steve Crane's mother arrives in Aidsfield, and is soon causing chaos.
- 8.00 Lewis** A humiliated professor is found dead after her dating video is leaked onto a website, but Lewis is not convinced she committed suicide and begins searching for a killer. (Series 6, ep 2)
- 10.00 Professor T** Jasper becomes embroiled in a hostage situation, but his negotiating tactics do not go down well with the police. (Series 1, ep 3) **11.05 Professor T** The academic helps investigate the disappearance of a girl.
- 12.10 The Royal** Double bill.
- 2.10 Unwind** Daily relaxation.
- 2.30-6.00 Teleshopping** Goods.



Woodley and James (BBC3, 9pm)

## E4

- 6.00pm The Big Bang Theory** Leonard and Raj take a heartbroken Howard to Las Vegas. (Series 2, ep 21) **6.30 The Big Bang Theory** Penny makes a surprising revelation.
- 7.00 Hollyoaks** Chester soap.
- 7.30 The Big Bang Theory** Leonard, Raj and Howard go camping. (Series 3, ep 8)
- 8.00 Below Deck — Mediterranean** Hannah puts her foot down when Bobby and Danny bring some girls back to the superyacht.
- 9.00 Married At First Sight UK** Another commitment ceremony takes place, with the couples discussing the week with Mel, Paul and Charlene, but important decisions lie ahead.
- 10.35 Send Nudes — Body SOS** A female bouncer wants more bounce in her breasts.
- 11.35-12.40 Gogglebox** Opinions.

## MORE4

- 5.55pm Car SOS** Vehicle revamps.
- 6.55 Escape To The Chateau** A fleet of vintage Citroëns on a charity tour make a pit stop at Dick and Angel's chateau.
- 7.55 The Yorkshire Dales And The Lakes** A man returns to the town of Sedburgh with plans to transform a pub into a top-end restaurant.
- 9.00 24 Hours In A&E** Patients include a 63-year-old man with throat cancer who has suffered a bleed, and a 10-month-old baby who stopped breathing at home.
- 10.00 24 Hour Baby Hospital** A couple arrive at the Rotunda for a procedure on their twins, who are at 16 weeks gestation.
- 11.05-12.10 24 Hours In A&E** An elderly man is suspected to have suffered a stroke.

## SKY CINEMA GREATS

- 6.00am** Carry On Cruising (1962, U) **7.45** True Grit (1969, PG) **9.55** Funny Face (1957, U) **11.55** Almost Famous (2000, 15) **2.35** The Spy Who Came In From The Cold (1965, PG) **4.30** The Italian Job (1969, PG) **6.15** Love Story. A couple's romance is cut short by the discovery that one of them has a terminal illness. (1970, PG) **8.00** Alfie. A lothario has flings with as many women as possible, until real life starts to intrude. (1966, 15) **9.55** Serpico. A cop in 1960s New York risks his life to expose corruption among his fellow officers. (1973, 18) **12.10** The Quiet Man (1952, U) **2.25** True Grit. As 7.45am. **4.35-6.10** Carry On Cruising. As 6am.

## SKY CINEMA SELECT

- 1.25pm** The Lord Of The Rings — The Two Towers (2002, 12) **4.25** Nobody (2021, 15) **6.00** The Bourne Ultimatum. The assassin regains his memory, just as a CIA director plans to kill him. (2007, 12) **8.00** Jurassic World. A safari park for genetically engineered dinosaurs makes a new species. (2015, 12) **10.10** Batman Begins. A billionaire becomes a vigilante to rid his city of crime. (2005, 12) **12.35** Blacklight (2022, 12) **2.25** Looper (2012, 15) **4.30-6.10** Fireheart (2022, PG)

## FILM4

- 11.00am** Blanche Fury (1948, U) **12.55** Freedom Radio (1940, PG) **2.50** Distant Drums (1951, U) **4.55** At Gunpoint. A shopkeeper faces deadly reprisals when he kills a bank robber. (1955, U) **6.35** Sahara. An explorer searches for a treasure-laden battleship believed to be somewhere in the desert. (2005, 12) **9.00** Indiana Jones And The Temple Of Doom. The archaeologist travels to India, where he battles to retrieve sacred stones in the possession of an evil cult. (1984, 12) **11.20** Sicario. An FBI agent questions everything when she is recruited to an elite narcotics task force. (2015, 15) **1.40-3.50** Searching. A man explores his missing daughter's laptop in the hope of finding out where she is. (2018, 12)

## TALKING PICTURES TV

- 3.05pm** California Conquest (1952, U) **4.45** Last Of The Redmen. An army major and a scout escort the children of a British colonel through the wilderness. (1947, U) **6.25** A Day Of One's Own 1956 **6.50** The Edgar Wallace Mystery Theatre **8.00** The Onedini Line **9.00** The Happy Thieves. A thief and his accomplice end up implicated in a murder. (1962, U) **10.45** The Champions **11.45-12.45** Hazell

## ENTERTAINMENT

## GOLD

- 7.10am** Keeping Up Appearances **7.40** Outnumbered **8.15** 2point4 Children **8.55** Hi-De-Hi! **9.35** Open All Hours **10.15** Last Of The Summer Wine **11.30** Desmond's **12.05** 2point4 Children **12.45** Dad's Army **1.30** Outnumbered **2.05** Keeping Up Appearances **2.40** Last Of The Summer Wine **4.00** Dad's Army **4.40** Open All Hours **5.20** Keeping Up Appearances **6.00** Hi-De-Hi! **6.40** Dad's Army. Double bill **8.00** Only Fools And Horses **8.40** Murder, They Hope **9.40** Bottom **11.00** Live At The Apollo **12.00** The Cockfields **12.40** Peep Show **1.50** Murder, They Hope **2.40-4.00** Bottom

## SKY COMEDY

- 6.00pm Futurama** **6.30** Everybody Hates Chris **7.30** The US Office **9.00** The Rehearsal **9.40** Vice Principals **10.50** Bloods **11.20** The Late Late Show **12.20** Sex And The City **1.30** The Tonight Show **2.30** Entourage **4.00-5.00** Everybody Hates Chris

## SKY WITNESS

- 6.00pm** Nothing To Declare **8.00** Blue Bloods. One of Danny's favourite comedians is suspected of murder



# TALKTV

**6.00 James Max** Discussion.  
**6.30 The Julia Hartley-Brewer Breakfast Show** All the stories starting off the day.  
**10.00 The Independent Republic Of Mike Graham** A look at the morning newspapers.  
**1.00 Ian Collins** Monologues.  
**4.00 Vanessa Feltz** Tackling the big stories of the day.  
**7.00 The News Desk** Presenter Tom Newton Dunn tackles the biggest stories of the day.  
**8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored** The host presents his verdict on the day's global events.  
**9.00 The Talk** Panel debates.  
**10.00 Daisy McAndrew** Discussion of the day's big stories.  
**11.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored**  
**12.00 Petrie Hosken** News stories.  
**4.00 The Talk** Discussions.  
**5.00-6.00 James Max** Updates. Available on Sky 526; Freeview 237; Virgin 627; Freesat 217; YouTube, connected TVs and smart devices

# SKYMAX

**6.00pm Stargate SG-1** O'Neill enlists the help of two military prisoners. (Series 5, ep 20, R) **7.00 Stargate SG-1** Jackson prepares to make the ultimate sacrifice. (R)  
**8.00 Seal Team** Bravo Team takes on multiple high-stakes missions. (Series 5, ep 11, R)  
**9.00 Never Mind The Buzzcocks** New run of the comedy music quiz hosted by Greg Davies, with guest panellists Nile Rodgers, Mae Muller and Russell Howard.  
**9.45 Brassic** Chinese Dan gives his retired racing greyhound to Cardi. (Series 4, ep 2)  
**10.45 The Russell Howard Hour** Topical comedy and entertainment show. (R)  
**11.30-12.30 Resident Alien** Harry and Asta's trip is interrupted. (Series 2, ep 5, R)

**COMEDY CENTRAL**  
**8.00am** Most Ridiculous **9.00** Takeshi's Castle **10.00** Your Face Or Mine **11.00** Friends **9.00** Michael McIntyre's Showtime **10.00** Comedy Central: Jack Whitehall **10.30** Comedy Central: Ardal O'Hanlon **11.00** Ridiculousness **11.30** Ridiculousness **12.00** South Park **2.00** The Ricky Gervais Show **3.00** Bob's Burgers **3.45-5.00** Friends

**YESTERDAY**  
**6.00am** Railway Murders **8.00** Abandoned Engineering **9.00** The World At War **10.00** War Factories **11.00** Abandoned Engineering **12.00** The Architecture The Railways Built **1.00** Bangers And Cash **2.00** Abandoned Engineering **4.00** War Factories **5.00** The World At War **6.00** The Architecture The Railways Built **7.00** Abandoned Engineering **8.00** Secrets Of The London Underground **9.00** Bangers And Cash **11.00** Abandoned Engineering **12.00-1.00** The Architecture The Railways Built

**DAVE**  
**6.00pm** Taskmaster **7.00** House Of Games **7.40** Room 101. With Vernon Kay, Kelly Hoppen and Miles Jupp **8.20** Would I Lie To You? **9.00** QI XL **10.00** Mock The Week **10.40** Would I Lie To You? **12.00** Mock The Week **12.40** QI

# SKYATLANTIC

**6.00 Hotel Secrets** Documentary.  
**7.45 Boardwalk Empire** Drama.  
**10.00 The Sopranos** Crime drama.  
**12.15 Six Feet Under** Drama series.  
**2.25 Game Of Thrones** Theon tries to prove his Ironborn status. (Series 2, ep 7)  
**3.30 Boardwalk Empire** Rosetti makes his move in Atlantic City. (Series 3, ep 11) **4.40 Boardwalk Empire** Nucky cedes control of one of his prized assets to Rothstein.  
**5.45 The Sopranos** Tony checks out a new car. (Series 3, ep 9)  
**6.50 The Sopranos** Bacala reluctantly dons a Santa suit.  
**7.55 Game Of Thrones** Robb Stark discovers he has been betrayed; and Arya calls in a debt. (Series 2, ep 8)  
**9.00 The White Lotus** Rachel is blindsided by an unexpected arrival; and Armond's commitment to sobriety is put to the test. (4/6)  
**10.10 Irma Vep** Mira experiences a spiritual breakthrough after a visit with Rene. (7/8)  
**11.10 Landscapers** Susan and Christopher each take the stand for a final chance to prove their version of events from the fatal night. (4/4)  
**12.10 Succession** (Series 1, ep 4)  
**1.20 Ray Donovan** Double bill.  
**3.30 In Treatment** Drama series.  
**4.00-6.00 Hotel Secrets** Insights.



Neve Campbell (SCP, 10.10pm)

**1.15** QI XL **2.25** Room 101 **3.00** Would I Lie To You? **3.30-4.00** Mock The Week

## FACTUAL

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC**  
**6.00pm** Engineering New York Super Airport **7.00** Air Crash Investigation — Special Report. Acts of sabotage **8.00** Airport Security — Rome **9.00** Narco Wars — Chasing The Dragon **10.00** Trafficked With Mariana Van Zeller **11.00** Air Crash Investigation **12.00** Car SOS **1.00-2.00** Wicked Tuna

**DISCOVERY**  
**6.00pm** Kindig Customs **7.00** Junkyard Empire **8.00** Railroad Alaska **9.00** Deadliest Catch **10.00** Mysteries Of The Deep. A 150-year-old shipwreck **11.00** Yukon Men **12.00** The Alaska Triangle **1.00-2.00** Deadliest Catch

**PBS AMERICA**  
**5.40pm** Beautiful Serengeti **6.10** In Search Of Medieval Britain. Double bill **7.30** The Silk Road **8.40** CHOICE The Last Voices Of World War One. Insights. (See Critics' choice) **9.45** Nazi Hunters **10.40-12.00** The Silk Road

**SKY DOCUMENTARIES**  
**6.00am** Urban Secrets **7.00** Discovering Jane Fonda **8.00** The Directors

# SPORT

**SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT**  
**6.00am** News **7.00** Good Morning Sports Fans **10.00** The Football Show **12.00** News **7.00** Gillette Labs Soccer Special **7.30 LIVE** EFL: Reading v Sunderland. Coverage of the Championship encounter at Select Car Leasing Stadium. Kickoff is at 8.00 **10.30** Gillette Labs Soccer Special **11.00 LIVE** MLS: Orlando City SC v Atlanta United FC. Coverage of the match at Exploria Stadium. Kickoff at 11.00 **1.10** MLS **1.15-6.00** News

**EUROSPORT 1**  
**6.00am** Cycling. The Tour of Slovakia **7.00** Cycling. The Tour of Luxembourg **8.00** Australian Open Tennis **9.30** Sailing — Spirit Of Yachting **10.00** Cycling. The Tour of Romania **11.00** Cycling. The Tour of Slovakia **12.00** Cycling. The Tour of Luxembourg **1.00 LIVE** Cycling. Coverage of stage two of the Tour of Luxembourg **3.00 LIVE** Cycling. Coverage of stage two of the Tour of Slovakia **4.30 LIVE** Cycling. Coverage of the Wallonie Grand Prix, the men's one-day race in Belgium **5.35** FIM Endurance World Championship **6.30** SailGP **7.00** Cycling. The Tour of Luxembourg **8.00** Cycling. The Tour of Slovakia **9.00** Cycling. The Wallonie Grand Prix **10.00** Triathlon PTO Tour — US Open Preview **11.00** Speedway Grand Prix **1.00** Hall Of Fame: Beijing 2008 **2.00** Cycling. The Tour of Slovakia **3.00** Cycling. The Tour of Luxembourg **4.00-6.00** Speedway Grand Prix

**BT SPORT 1**  
**6.00am** ESPN FC **6.30** Premier League Reload **6.45** Classic MOTD — Thrillers **7.00** WWE Monday Night Raw **9.30** ESPN FC **10.00** Premier League Review **11.00** Ligue 1 Highlights **12.00** Uefa Europa League & Conference League Magazine **1.01 LIVE** Uefa Youth League: Chelsea U19 v RB Salzburg U19. The Group E match. Kickoff at 1.00 **3.00 LIVE** Uefa Youth League: Manchester City U19 v Borussia Dortmund U19. Kickoff at 3.00 **5.00** Serie A — Full Impact **5.30 LIVE** Uefa Champions League: AC Milan v Dinamo Zagreb. Kickoff at 5.45 **7.45** UCL Goals Show **10.15** The Football's On **11.15** Premier League Reload **11.30** MLB Plays Of The Week **12.00 LIVE** MLB: Boston Red Sox v New York Yankees. Start-time at 12.10 **3.30** Reload **4.00** Motorsport — DTM **5.00-6.00** PTO Triathlon

**9.00** The 2000s **10.00** Catch And Kill — The Podcast Tapes **11.00** The Vietnam War **12.00** The Kingmaker **2.00** Very Ralph **4.00** The Directors **5.00** Discovering Jane Fonda **6.00** The 2000s **7.00** Catch And Kill — The Podcast Tapes **8.00** The Vietnam War **9.00** The Loneliest Whale — The Search For 52 **11.00-12.35** Wishful Drinking

**SKY NATURE**  
**6.00am** Wild Workers **7.00** Africa's Hidden Kingdoms **8.00** Monkey Life **9.00** Big Cat Country **10.00** Into The Wild — India **11.00** Brazil Untamed **12.00** Arabian Inferno **1.00** Monkey Life **2.00** Africa's Hidden Kingdoms **3.00** Into The Wild — India **4.00** Big Cat Country **5.00** Brazil Untamed **6.00** Arabian Inferno **7.00** Monkey Life **8.00** Into The Big Blue Heart **9.00** Macro Worlds **10.00** Brazil Untamed **11.00-12.00** Arabian Inferno

**SMITHSONIAN**  
**6.00am** Aerial America **7.00** Air Warriors **10.00** The Pacific War In Colour **12.00** America In Colour **1.00** Food Factories — How They Work **3.00** Searching For Secrets **4.00** The Pacific War In Colour **6.00** Big Cat Country **8.00** The Hunt For Escobar's Hippos **9.00** Miami Wild **10.00** Aerial Africa. The interior of South Africa **11.00-12.00** The Hunt For Escobar's Hippos

# RADIO



## Americast

**BBC Sounds**  
The podcast returns with a new team of Marianna Spring, pictured, Justin Webb and Sarah Smith. Anjula Mutanda looks at some of the causes of anxiety in children, talking to a mum who wants to know how to explain climate change to her family in **Bringing Up Britain** (Radio 4, 8pm). **The World According To Tubsey And Hyder** (podcast) sees the *Big Zuu's Big Eats* duo come centre stage.  
*Claire Woodward*

**RADIO 4**  
**5.30** News **5.43** Prayer **5.45** Farming Today **5.58** Tweet Of The Day (R) **6.00** Today **8.31** (LW) Yesterday In Parliament **9.00** More Or Less **9.30** One Dish. Andi Oliver considers the schnitzel **9.45** Book Of The Week **9.45** (LW) Daily Service **10.00** Woman's Hour **11.00** Ugandan Asians — The Reckoning (R) **11.30** Princess. A focus on the scandalous 18th-century princess Caroline of Brunswick **12.00** News **12.01** (LW) Shipping **12.04** You And Yours **1.00** The World At One **1.45** The Boy In The Woods **2.00** The Archers (R) **2.15** Drama: Someone Dangerous, by Andy Mulligan (R) **3.00** Money Box Live **3.30** Robin Ince's Reality Tunnel (R) **4.00** Thinking Allowed **4.30** The Media Show **5.00 PM 5.54** (LW) Shipping **6.00** News **6.30** Joe Lycett's Obsessions (R) **7.00** The Archers **7.15** Front Row **8.00** Bringing Up Britain. New series. How to discuss climate-change issues with youngsters **8.45** Four Thought. New run **9.00** Costing The Earth (R) **9.30** The Media Show (R) **10.00** The World Tonight **10.45** Book At Bedtime **11.00** The Haunting (R) **11.15** The Skewer **11.30** Today In Parliament **12.00** News **12.30** Book Of The Week (R) **12.48** Shipping **1.00** As World Service

**TIMES RADIO**  
**5.00** Anna Cunningham With Early Breakfast **6.00** Aasmah Mir And Stig Abell With Times Radio Breakfast **10.00** Matt Chorley **1.00** Mariella Frostrup. A fresh look at the issues shaping our world **4.00** John Pienaar At Drive. A full roundup of today's developments **7.00** Henry Bonsu **10.00** Carole Walker. The main stories of the day **1.00** Stories Of Our Times **1.30** Red Box **2.00** Highlights From Times Radio

To get in touch with the Times Radio studio, text TIMES plus your message to 87222. Texts cost your standard message charge.

**RADIO 4 EXTRA**  
**5.00** The Break **5.30** Alone **6.00** Death May Surprise Us **6.30** Agatha Raisin **7.00** Jake Yapp's Media Circus **7.30** Joe Lycett's Obsessions **8.00** Hancock's Half Hour **8.30** Flying The Flag **9.00** Booked **9.30** 1835 **10.00** Devonia **10.45** Short Works **11.00** The National Theatre With Daniel Rosenthal **12.00** Hancock's Half Hour **12.30** Flying The Flag **1.00** Death May Surprise Us **1.30** Agatha Raisin **2.00** Adventures Of A Young Naturalist **2.15** Eleanor Rising **2.30** Shine Like Tokyo — Northern Soul Goes East! **3.00** Devonia **3.45** Short Works **4.00** Booked **4.30** 1835 **5.00** Jake Yapp's Media Circus **5.30** Joe Lycett's Obsessions **6.00** The Slide **6.30** Pioneers **7.00** Hancock's Half Hour **7.30** Flying The Flag **8.00** Death May Surprise Us **8.30** Agatha Raisin **9.00** The National Theatre With Daniel Rosenthal **10.00** Joe Lycett's Obsessions **10.30** Goodness Gracious Me **10.55** The Comedy Club Interview **11.00** What Does The K Stand For? **11.30-12.00** Simon Evans Goes To Market

**LBC**  
**7.00** Nick Ferrari **10.00** James O'Brien **1.00** Shelagh Fogarty **4.00** Tom Swarbrick **6.00** Tonight With Andrew Marr **7.00** Iain Dale **10.00** Ian Payne **1.00** Darren Adam **4.00** Steve Allen

**RADIO 3**  
**6.30** Breakfast **9.00** Essential Classics **12.00** Composer Of The Week **1.00** Lunchtime Concert. At the Machynlleth festival, the violinist Viktoria Mullova performs works by Schubert, Part and Takemitsu **2.00** Afternoon Concert. At the Gstaad Menuhin festival, the Zurich Chamber Orchestra play Beethoven, Mahler and Bernstein **4.00** Choral Evensong. At Coventry Cathedral on Holy Cross Day **5.00** In Tune **7.30** In Concert. At the Edinburgh International festival, Edward Gardner conducts the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra in Ravel's La Valse, Schumann's Piano Concerto in A minor, with Vikingur Olafsson and Rachmaninov's Symphonic Dances **10.00** Free Thinking. Ian McEwan joins researchers Michael Mulvihill, Jessica Douthwaite and Anne McElvoy to discuss UK Cold War fears **10.45** The Essay. The actor Deepa Shastri explores how the arts and sign language go hand in hand due to the expressive nature of sign language **11.00** Night Tracks. An immersive soundtrack for late-night listening **12.30** Through The Night

**CLASSIC FM**  
**6.00** Tim Lihoreau **9.00** Alexander Armstrong **12.00** Anne-Marie Minhall **4.00** John Brunning **7.00** Zeb Soanes **10.00** Margherita Taylor **1.00** Karthi Gnanasegaram **4.00** Lucy Coward

**RADIO 2**  
**6.30** The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show **9.30** Ken Bruce **12.00** Jeremy Vine **2.00** Steve Wright **5.00** Sara Cox **7.00** Jo Whitley **9.00** The Folk Show. With Jackie Oates **10.00** Trevor Nelson **12.00** OJ Borg **3.00** Sounds Of The 90s (R) **4.00** Early Breakfast Show

**VIRGIN RADIO**  
**6.30** The Chris Evans Breakfast Show **10.00** Eddy Temple-Morris **1.00** Tim Cocker **4.00** Jayne Middlemore **7.00** Steve Denyer **10.00** Olivia Jones **1.00** Sean Goldsmith **4.00** Steve Denyer

**TALKSPORT**  
**5.00** Early Breakfast **6.00** Breakfast **10.00** Jim White And Simon Jordan **1.00** Hawksbee And Jacobs **4.00** Drive **7.00** Kick Off **10.00** Sports Bar **1.00** Extra Time



- 6.00 Breakfast** The latest reports.  
**9.15 Morning Live** Magazine.  
**10.00 Dom Does America** (R)  
**10.45 Claimed And Shamed** (R)  
**11.15 Homes Under The Hammer**  
**12.15 Bargain Hunt** Curios. (R)  
**1.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**1.45 Doctors** At the hospital, Valerie supports Al as he faces his greatest fear; and Karen helps Bear deal with the Scarlett situation.  
**2.15 Money For Nothing** Items include a TV stand and a massive mirror. (R)  
**3.00 Escape To The Country** A south London couple seek to swap city life for rural Devon.  
**3.45 The Bidding Room** A vintage scooter and a birthing chair are up for auction. (R)  
**4.30 Antiques Road Trip** Raj Birsam and Irita Marriott find delights in Devon, where they dig up some wooden toys and prized pottery to sell.  
**5.15 Pointless** Unorthodox quiz, with Alexander Armstrong and co-host Sally Lindsay.  
**6.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**6.30 Regional News** Update.  
**7.00 The One Show** Features.  
**7.30 EastEnders** Dotty confesses all to Vinny, who is devastated — and when Finlay intervenes, it only makes matters worse; and Frankie pulls Denzel and Nugget up on their behaviour towards Amy.  
**8.00 Celebrity Masterchef** The final four produce a theatrical showstopping dish; then the surviving three encounter the Italian chef Giorgio Locatelli, who sets the Chef's Table challenge.  
**9.00 Ambulance** Crewmates attend a patient who is feeling suicidal and the call out takes a turn when their charge begins hallucinating; and a call handler tries to help a patient who is struggling to breathe and becoming aggressive. (Last in series)  
**10.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**10.40 Question Time** Fiona Bruce hosts the topical debate from Birmingham, with a panel of politicians and guests facing questions from the audience.  
**11.40 Newscast** A weekly political roundup from Westminster.  
**12.15-6.00 Joins BBC News**

**SCOTLAND 11.15 Bargain Hunt.**  
**12.00** Scottish First Minister's Questions. **6.30** Reporting Scotland; Weather. **7.00** River City.

- 6.30 Money For Nothing** (R)  
**7.15 Antiques Road Trip** (R)  
**8.00 Fake Or Fortune?** (Signed, R)  
**9.00 BBC News** Headlines.  
**12.15 Politics Live** Discussion.  
**1.00 Chase The Case** Game. (R)  
**1.45 Eggheads** Team quiz. (R)  
**2.15 Glorious Gardens From Above** In Northumberland. (R)  
**3.00 Flipping Profit** Items. (R)  
**3.45 Wanted — A Simple Life** (R)  
**4.30 Murder, Mystery And My Family** Investigating the murder of a pensioner in 1952, for which a farm labourer was hanged, despite claiming to have an alibi. (R)  
**5.15 Flog It!** Items in Reading. (R)  
**6.00 House Of Games** With Rob Deering, Katya Jones, Jayne Middlemiss and Phil Tufnell.  
**6.30 Unbeatable** General-knowledge quiz show, hosted by Jason Manford.  
**7.00 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip** The actors Robert Daws and Mark Curry search for valuables in Lancashire. (R)  
**8.00 Saving Lives At Sea** On Ireland's northwest coast, the RNLI crew at Bundoran races to the rescue of a girl who has been swept out to sea by a rip-current.  
**9.00 CHOICE All That Glitters — Britain's Next Jewellery Star** The hopefuls have to make a best-selling brooch inspired by Birmingham's rich culture and heritage, and a bespoke ear cuff to be worn at an upcoming LGBTQ+ event. (See Critics' choice)  
**10.00 CHOICE Stuck** Dan is feeling insecure about his body and heads out on a shopping spree. (3/5) **10.15 Stuck** Dan struggles to find work; and Carla tries to contain Joy's anxiety. (See Critics' choice)  
**10.30 Newsnight** The day's events.  
**11.15 Cricket** Action from the third match of the Women's T20 series between England and India, which came from Seat Unique Stadium in Bristol.  
**11.45 Days That Shook The BBC** David Dimbleby explores the BBC's relationship with the British people, asking how it can seek to serve its entire audience. (Last in series, R)  
**12.45 Stolen — Catching The Art Thieves** An account of the theft of JMW Turner's *Shade and Darkness* and *Light and Colour* in 1994. (1/3, R)  
**1.45-3.15 Blackpool's Dance Fever** Insights. (Signed, R)

- 6.00 Good Morning Britain**  
**9.00 Lorraine** Lifestyle chat.  
**10.00 This Morning** Features.  
**12.30 Loose Women** Debate.  
**1.30 News; Weather** Reports.  
**2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal** David Dickinson is joined in Crewe by dealers Fay Rutter, James Layte, Simon Schneider and Jo Brayshaw.  
**3.00 Tenable** A team of five friends from Sheffield answer questions about top 10 lists.  
**4.00 Tipping Point** Ben Shephard presents the gameshow.  
**5.00 The Chase** Quiz show, hosted by Bradley Walsh.  
**6.00 Regional News** Update.  
**6.30 News; Weather** Reports.  
**7.30 Emmerdale** An excited Charity prepares for her trip away as Mackenzie answers a call, demanding that the person on the other end leave him alone.  
**8.00 CHOICE The National Television Awards** Joel Dommett hosts the 27th staging of the ceremony, as stars and fans gather at the Ovo Arena, Wembley. (See Critics' choice)  
**10.30 News; Weather** Reports.  
**11.20 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?** Jeremy Clarkson hosts the quiz, welcoming more winners from new sister show *Fastest Finger First* for the chance to win a life-changing £1m. (R)  
**12.15 All Elite Wrestling — Rampage** Hard-hitting wrestling action with many of AEW's biggest stars.  
**1.10 Teleshopping** Goods.  
**3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal** David Dickinson is joined in Crewe by the dealers Fay Rutter, James Layte, Jo Brayshaw and Simon Schneider. (R)  
**3.50 Unwind** Daily relaxation.  
**5.05-6.00 Garraway's Good Stuff** Kate Garraway hosts the chat show. (Last in series, R)



**Creature comfort** (C5, 9pm)

- 6.10 Countdown** Gameshow. (R)  
**6.50 3rd Rock From The Sun** (R)  
**7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond** Family comedy series. (R)  
**9.00 Frasier** American sitcom. (R)  
**10.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA** Advice. (R)  
**11.25 News; Weather** Reports.  
**11.30 The Great House Giveaway** In Weston-super-Mare. (R)  
**12.30 Steph's Packed Lunch**  
**2.10 Countdown** Gameshow.  
**3.00 A Place In The Sun** Advice. (R)  
**4.00 Chateau DIY** A pair of owners embark on a gite project.  
**5.00 Moneybags** Quiz show.  
**6.00 The Simpsons** Homer's computing error plunges the Earth into chaos. (R)  
**6.30 Hollyoaks** Sid tries to persuade Lizzie to go on holiday with him. (R)  
**7.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**8.00 Old House, New Home** George Clarke helps transform a Clapham terrace that needs to accommodate three generations of the same family, and meets a couple tackling their 16th-century gatehouse in Hove. (R)  
**9.00 CHOICE My Grandparents' War** In a new run, the actor Kit Harington digs into his grandparents' experiences in the Second World War, including his grandfather who worked alongside James Bond creator Ian Fleming. (See Critics' choice)  
**10.00 Naked Attraction** Anna Richardson presents as a 24-year-old student and a 28-year-old divorcee each hope to find romance.  
**11.05 Embarrassing Bodies** A doctor helps a man whose phobia of the dentist has left him with such bad teeth that he no longer smiles due to his embarrassing gnashers. (R)  
**12.10 First Dates** Hotel Flirting. (R)  
**1.05 Finding The Cornish Dream** Property. (Last in series, R)  
**2.00 CHOICE Village Rockstars** With Bhanita Das. In rural Assam, a girl defies societal norms as she befriends a group of boys and dreams of having her own rock band. (2017, U; Assamese with subtitles; see Film choice)  
**3.30 Couples Come Dine With Me** Parties in Plymouth. (R)  
**4.20 Perfect House, Secret Location** Property. (R)  
**5.15-6.10 The Great Home Transformation** (R)

- 6.00 Milkshake!** Fun for children.  
**9.15 Jeremy Vine** Debate.  
**12.45 Holiday Homes In The Sun**  
**1.40 News; Weather** Reports.  
**1.45 Home And Away** Eden notices that Kirby acting strangely, and later offers to cover Felicity's shifts at Salt.  
**2.15 My Killer Twin** Thriller, with Emily Piggford. A woman moves back to her home town only to discover that she has a long-lost twin. (R)  
**4.00 Bargain-Loving Brits In The Sun** Meeting a one-man Beatles tribute act, who performs up and down the Costa del Sol. (R)  
**5.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**6.00 Cash In The Attic** Curios.  
**6.55 News; Weather** Reports.  
**7.00 Costco — How Do They Really Do It?** A look at the workings of the membership-only retailer, examining if its own-brand products are really premium ones in disguise, and putting them to the test. (R)  
**7.55 News; Weather** Reports.  
**8.00 Save Money On Your Supermarket Shop** Alexis Conran investigates how clothing matches up to the high street for quality and cost; and Angellica Bell investigates healthy offal.  
**9.00 CHOICE All Creatures Great And Small** New run of the drama, with Nicholas Ralph and Samuel West. Three months have passed and it is now spring 1939, with big changes happening at Skeldale. (Series 3, ep 1; see Critics' choice)  
**10.00 New Lives In The Wild** Ben Fogle meets a photographer living off the land in Oregon, who lives by catching fish and harvesting wild weeds and has built his own Native American sweat lodge. (R)  
**11.05 Police — Night Shift 999** An officer is caught off guard when a routine area search leaves him surrounded by an aggressive family; and a violent shoplifter is cornered in a supermarket. (R)  
**12.05 Motorway Cops — Catching Britain's Speeders** An officer makes his way to the scene of a collision on the A6. (R)  
**1.00 LeoVegas Live Casino Show**  
**3.00 Entertainment News** Gossip.  
**3.05 What A Treat! Our Favourite Sweets** (R)  
**4.45 Amazing Cakes & Bakes** (R)  
**5.30-6.00 Children's Shows**

## VARIATIONS

**ITV WALES 11.20** Fishlock's Choice  
**11.50** Wales On TV **S4C 6.00** Peppa  
**6.05** Jen A Jim A'r Cywiadur **6.20** Y Brodyr Coala **6.30** Dwylo'r Enfys  
**6.45** Caru Canu **6.55** Shwshaswyn  
**7.05** Ein Byd Bach Ni **7.15** Nico Nog **7.25** Pablo **7.40** Ahoi! **8.00** Bing  
**8.10** Wibli Sochyn Y Mochyn **8.20** Y Diwrnod Mawr **8.35** Digbi Draig  
**8.45** Asra **9.00** Olobobs **9.05** Blero  
Yn Mynd I Ocido **9.20** Oli Wyn **9.30** Guto Gwningen **9.45** Cacamwnci  
**10.00** Peppa **10.05** Jen A Jim A'r Cywiadur **10.20** Y Brodyr Coala

**10.30** Dwylo'r Enfys **10.45** Caru Canu **10.55** Shwshaswyn **11.05** Ein Byd Bach Ni **11.15** Nico Nog **11.25** Pablo **11.40** Ahoi! **12.00** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **12.05** Sain Ffagan **12.30** Heno **1.00** Pysgod I Bawb **1.30** Sgwrs Dan y Lloer **2.00** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **2.05** Prynhawn Da **3.00** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **3.05** Symud I Gymru **4.00** Awr Fawr: Peppa **4.05** Caru Canu A Stori **4.15** Ein Byd Bach Ni **4.25** Pablo **4.40** Ahoi! **5.00** Stwnsh: Cath-Od **5.10** Y Doniolis **5.20** Y Dyfnfor **5.40** Chwarter Call

**5.55** Ffeil **6.00** Codi Pac **6.30** Richard Holt — Yr Academi Felys **6.57** Newyddion **7.00** Heno **7.30** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **8.00** Pobol Y Cwm. Anita is rushed to hospital **8.25** Rownd A Rownd. Glenda gives Terry some unexpected news **8.55** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **9.00** Pawb A'i Farn. Discussion on topical issues **10.00** Rygbi Pawb. Rugby union magazine show **10.45-11.50** Gwesty Aduniad. Caris Bowen wants to thank someone special who supported her during difficult times

## YOU SAY

**The Sopranos, The Wire, Better Call Saul, Succession** and now, because of *Culture, Mr In-Between* (Amazon). It's brilliant, another drama to add to our all-time favourite list.  
**Kim Nott**

The **Aerial** programmes on Smithsonian are excellent and the background narration (not camera-hogging presenters) makes it perfect.  
**Peter Nothard**

Send your comments to: [telly@sunday-times.co.uk](mailto:telly@sunday-times.co.uk)



## CRITICS' CHOICE

**My Grandparents' War (C4, 9pm)**

Always engrossing and often poignant, **My Grandparents' War** is a more focused version of *Who Do You Think You Are?*. After a well-received series in 2019, Kit Harington is the first of a second squad of stars investigating how their families spent the Second World War: fighting at Monte Cassino and dodging bombs in Exeter, in the case of the *Game of Thrones* actor's maternal grandparents, while his paternal pair were both spies. Harington jokes that this genetic legacy makes him perfect to play 007, if only he had inherited tallness too – and his grandad had a special mission in the Caribbean. Films with Toby Jones, Keira Knightley and Emeli Sandé follow.

John Dugdale



**I, spy: Kit Harington uncovers his grandparents' clandestine affairs (C4, 9pm)**

## A quietly shining television beacon

**Milkshake! 25th Birthday (C5, from 6am)**

Channel 5's **Milkshake!** strand for pre-schoolers celebrates its 25th anniversary today, and it has been one of the network's big yet quiet successes. Somewhat surprisingly, it claims to be the only British terrestrial children's TV strand that commissions more than 50 hours of original content every year, with the aid of the BFI's Young Audiences Content Fund. Hits include factual series *Meet the Experts* and *The World According to Grandpa*, with the great Don Warrington. However, it is *Peppa Pig* that is Milkshake!'s superstar; the series has won an armful of awards and been sold to 180 countries, and there will be a special Peppa episode at 7.20am.

Clair Woodward

**All Creatures Great And Small (C5, 9pm)**

The day of James and Helen's wedding is upon us, on the eve of the Second World War judging by the sight of fighter planes practising manoeuvres in the Yorkshire sky and young farming men signing up despite their occupation's reserved status. The older generation can scarcely take it in, while the younger is keen to fight. Tristan (Callum Woodhouse, perfectly cast as the louche younger Farnon) is the "Worst Man", charged with bringing James (Nicholas Ralph) back safe and sound from his stag night. He has no intention of taking up arms. "It's a shame for the women of the world, though," he boasts. "I would look good in a uniform."

Helen Stewart

**The National Television Awards (ITV, 8pm)**

The only TV awards show in which the viewer vote counts for everything hits its 27th year, with Joel Dommett hosting the ceremony. Ant and Dec, *Heartstopper* and Vicky McClure are contenders, while the musical interludes come from Robbie Williams and Lewis Capaldi.



**Host: Joel Dommett (ITV, 8pm)**

**All That Glitters (BBC2, 9pm)**

They wanna be adorned: tonight's jewellery-making competition begins with the five remaining contestants making a Birmingham-inspired brooch out of "contemporary materials". There is then a chance to show their metal (groan) with a bespoke ear-cuff.

**Stuck (BBC2, 10pm/10.15pm)**

Zooming in on a floundering couple, this comedy unfolds like a shabbier *State of the Union* or a more boho *Him And Her*. Tonight, a former girlfriend and an organic deli rock Dylan Moran and Morgana Robinson's leaky relationship boat.

Victoria Segal

## FILM CHOICE

**The Elephant Man (BBC4, 9pm)**

David Lynch's account of the life of John Merrick, cruelly nicknamed "the Elephant Man" for his disfigurements, is quite unlike anything else on his CV. Usually one to leer in sinister thrall at those outcast from society, here Lynch treats Merrick with absolute compassion as he is "rescued" from a Victorian freak show by kindly doctor Frederick Treves (Anthony Hopkins). Lynch allows himself some sentimental moments, but only briefly, and they are earned. John Hurt gives a flawless performance as Merrick. (1980)

**Village Rockstars (C4, 2am)**

In Rima Das's uplifting movie, a young girl (Bhanita Das) living in Assam, in India, dreams of owning a guitar and playing in a rock band. However, tradition and her family's poor fortune have other ideas. Beautifully played and naturalistically directed. (2017)

Olly Richards



**A true gentle man (BBC4, 9pm)**

## ON DEMAND

**Minx (Paramount+)**

Look up Ellen Rapoport's new comedy drama on rottentomatoes.com and you will find hundreds of angry one-star reviews. The series is about a young 1970s feminist (*W1A*'s Ophelia Lovibond) who join forces with a seedy publisher (*New Girl*'s Jake

Johnson) to create the first women's erotic magazine. But that's not why audiences are up in arms. They are angry because the show features full-frontal male nudity. If that offends you, look away, but if you like the sound of a smart, snappy romcom set within the 1970s porn industry, which manages to be funny about workers' rights and the female gaze (as well as male nudity), then sign up.

**Welcome To Wrexham (Disney+)**

If you thought a film about the actors Rob McElhenney and Ryan Reynolds buying up Wrexham FC would focus on the stars, think again. This is as much a series about a community and its people as it is about a team and its owners, a quiet, wise, finely judged one-off that is shaping up to be the documentary series of the year.

**Marriage (BBC iPlayer)**

If Stefan Golaszewski's drama had been called *A Marriage* and hadn't featured that a cappella theme, perhaps audiences wouldn't have felt so provoked. Because behind confrontational trappings was a beautifully judged portrait of relationships in extremis that contained, via Sean Bean and Nicola Walker, two of the year's finest performances.

Andrew Male

**Pinocchio (Disney+)**

With one small change to the story of Disney's 1940 classic animation, Robert Zemeckis distinguishes his film from various live-action remakes. Here, Geppetto's (Tom Hanks) puppet replaces his own lost son. It adds melancholy to the adventure, which is otherwise just as you remember, but with slick CG instead of hand-drawn animation. See review, page 17. *OR*



## BBC3

- 7.00pm Top Gear** The team takes some of greatest-ever cars featured in James Bond movies for a spin.
- 8.00 MOTDx** Football discussion presented by Jermaine Jenas.
- 8.30 Sky High Club — Scotland And Beyond** Sara undertakes a hugely important job
- 9.00 The Rap Game UK** The three remaining artists perform for the last time. (Last in series)
- 10.00 People Just Do Nothing** Steves has an important visit. (Series 5, ep 4) **10.30 People Just Do Nothing** Mische plans a big birthday meal for Grindah. **11.00 People Just Do Nothing** Grindah says farewell to Brentford.
- 11.30 This Is Amapiano** Music.
- 12.00 The Rap Game UK**
- 1.00 MOTDx** Football chat.
- 1.30 As 8.30pm**
- 2.00 Dubai Hustle** Documentary.
- 2.30-4.00 As 10pm**

## DRAMA

- 12.00 The Bill** Police drama series.
- 1.00 Classic EastEnders** Soap.
- 2.20 Monarch Of The Glen**
- 3.20 A Place To Call Home** Drama.
- 4.20 All Creatures Great And Small** Rural drama series.
- 5.20 Birds Of A Feather** Sitcom.
- 6.00 Are You Being Served?**
- 6.40 'Allo 'Allo!** Classic comedy.
- 7.20 Last Of The Summer Wine**
- 8.00 Judge John Deed** A doctor is accused of murdering a seriously ill patient with a morphine overdose. (S1, ep 5)
- 10.00 New Tricks** The team reopens the case of a pub landlord killed in a fire. (Series 11, ep 7)
- 11.20 Spooks** Zaf goes undercover to infiltrate an al-Qaeda cell. (Series 5, ep 3)
- 12.40 Bad Girls** (Series 3, ep 11)
- 1.50 Les Misérables** Paris stands on the brink of revolt. (5/6)
- 3.05-4.00 Birds Of A Feather**

## FILMS

## SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

**6.15am** Even Mice Belong In Heaven (2021, PG) **7.45** The 355. Four female agents join forces to retrieve a top-secret weapon from mercenaries. (2022, 12) **9.55** Belfast. A boy and his family experience the ugly reality of sectarian conflict in 1960s Belfast, Northern Ireland. (2021, 12) **11.45** A Journal For Jordan (2021, 12) **2.00** Last Looks (2021, 15) **4.10** Even Mice Belong In Heaven. As 6.15am. **5.50** The 355. Details as 7.45am. **8.00** Belfast. Details as 9.55am. **10.00** Jackass Forever (2022, 18) **11.40** Scream (2022, 18) **1.45** Last Looks. Details as 2pm. **3.45-6.00** A Journal For Jordan. Details as 11.45am.

## SKY CINEMA THRILLER

**1.25pm** A Few Good Men (1992, 15) **3.45** The Dry (2020, 15) **5.50** The Little Things. A deputy sheriff is sent to Los Angeles for what should be a quick assignment, but he gets embroiled in the search for a killer. (2021, 15) **8.00** Inception. A hi-tech thief enters a corporate heir's mind to implant an idea he will think is his own. (2010, 12) **10.30** Legend (2015, 18) **12.45-3.15** A Few Good Men. Details as 1.25pm.

## BBC4

- 7.00pm Art, Passion & Power — The Story Of The Royal Collection** How royal collecting has changed since Queen Victoria's day. (4/4)
- 8.00 The Last Days Of Anne Boleyn** The circumstances surrounding the execution of Henry VIII's second wife.
- 9.00 CHOICE The Elephant Man** Stars John Hurt. A disfigured man's life is transformed by his friendship with a respected doctor in Victorian London. (1980, PG, B/W; see Film choice)
- 11.00 The Sky At Night** The world of astrophotography.
- 11.30 Afghanistan — The Great Game: A Personal View By Rory Stewart** Documentary.
- 1.30 Art, Passion & Power — The Story Of The Royal Collection**
- 2.30-3.30 Mars — A Traveller's Guide: Horizon** Documentary.

## SKYARTS

- 6.00pm Alfred Hitchcock Presents:** The Belfry. A man kills the fiancé of the schoolteacher he loves. **6.30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents:** The Hidden Thing. A woman is killed in a hit-and-run.
- 7.00 Discovering Robert Donat** A look at the life of the actor.
- 8.00 Lenny Henry's Got The Blues** The actor explores Britain's failure to produce acclaimed blues stars.
- 9.00 The Directors** The life and work of director Christopher Nolan, whose films include Memento and Insomnia.
- 10.00 Discovering George Clooney** A profile of the American actor and director.
- 11.00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents:** There Was An Old Woman.
- 11.30-12.00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents:** Whodunit.

## ITV2

- 6.00pm Catchphrase** Gameshow.
- 7.00 Secret Crush** A woman tells her best friend she has a crush on him.
- 8.00 Bob's Burgers** Linda finds a potato that resembles her late grandfather. (S7, ep 6)
- 8.30 Bob's Burgers** Bob gets involved in a gingerbread house competition.
- 9.00 Gordon, Gino And Fred — American Road Trip** The trio arrive in Texas, where Gordon Ramsay enjoys the barbecue food — and the companions also find time to play lumberjack, go fishing and visit the rodeo.
- 10.00 Shopping With Keith Lemon** With Sharon Osbourne.
- 10.30 Family Guy** Peter becomes a classy person. (S12, ep 17)
- 11.00 Family Guy** Lois tires of Peter's performances in the bedroom. (Series 12, ep 9)
- 11.30-12.00 American Dad!**

## ITV4

- 5.30pm Racing** The final seven races of the competition come from Newcastle.
- 9.00 World Rally Highlights** The Acropolis Rally Greece, the 10th round of the campaign.
- 10.00 FILM: The Krays** Stars Gary and Martin Kemp, and Billie Whitelaw. Biopic of the twins who ruled east London's gangland with a rod of iron in the 1960s. Intelligent. (1990, 18; includes FYI Daily)
- 12.30 FILM: Force Of Execution** Stars Steven Seagal. An assassination attempt gone wrong results in a gang war between an honourable crime boss and his ambitious rival. Predictable thriller. (2013, 15; includes FYI Daily)
- 2.35 Unwind** Daily relaxation.
- 3.00-6.00 Teleshopping** Goods.

## ITV3

- 6.00 Classic Coronation Street**
- 7.00 Classic Emmerdale** Soap.
- 8.05 That's My Boy** Sitcom.
- 9.15 The Royal** Hospital series.
- 11.30 Heartbeat** Rural drama.
- 1.40 Classic Emmerdale** Soap.
- 2.10 Classic Coronation Street**
- 3.50 Poirot** The detective's hopes of a quiet Christmas are dashed when the Foreign Office comes knocking at his door. (Series 3, ep 9) **4.55 Poirot** The sleuth is invited to attend a masquerade ball and finds time amid the revelry to solve an aristocrat's murder.
- 6.00 Heartbeat** A former con with a score to settle arrives in the village. **7.00 Heartbeat** Merton organises a search of the moors after a farming couple are reported missing.
- 8.00 Vera** The murder of a cleaner whose death occurred hours after the killer blow puts Vera on an intriguing trail, as she pieces together his final hours. (Series 10, ep 3)
- 10.00 Professor T** Jasper befriends a vulnerable girl and is convinced she may be a murder witness. (Series 1, ep 5) **11.05 Professor T** An attempt is made on a billionaire businessman's life.
- 12.10 The Royal** Hospital series.
- 2.10 Unwind** Daily relaxation.
- 2.30-6.00 Teleshopping** Goods.



Huge Broughton Hall (More4, 9pm)

## E4

- 6.00pm The Big Bang Theory** Leonard and Penny discuss their future. (S2, ep 23)
- 6.30 The Big Bang Theory** Sheldon learns his friends tampered with the Arctic expedition data. (S3, ep 1)
- 7.00 Hollyoaks** James makes a huge fuss over Leela.
- 7.30 The Big Bang Theory** Kripke plays a prank on Sheldon. (Series 3, ep 9)
- 8.00 Below Deck — Mediterranean** Danny disobeys a direct order from Captain Mark when he decides to give a love poem to a charter guest.
- 9.00 Married At First Sight UK** Wedding bells chime once more, as two new couples meet for the first time.
- 10.00 Dirty House Rescue — Queens Of Clean** Adam and Charnel head to London.
- 11.05-12.05 Gogglebox** Opinions.

## MORE4

- 5.55pm Car SOS** Renovating a 1969 Jensen Interceptor.
- 6.55 Escape To The Chateau** As the beginning of autumn arrives, Dick passes on his conker skills to the family.
- 7.55 Wondrous Wales** A look at the people who live and work in and around the remarkable landscapes of Wales's three national parks, such as fishermen and cattle farmers.
- 9.00 Huge Homes** The actor Hugh Dennis visits a Jacobean stately pile in Staffordshire which boasts period charm along with all manner of pioneering gadgets.
- 10.00 Grand Designs Australia** A couple in Melbourne turn their 1850s Carlton terrace into a multistoried home with a triple car-stacker.
- 11.05-12.05 24 Hours In A&E**

## ENTERTAINMENT

## GOLD

**7.10am** Keeping Up Appearances **7.40** Outnumbered **8.15** 2point4 Children **8.55** Hi-De-Hi! **9.35** Open All Hours **10.15** Last Of The Summer Wine **11.30** Desmond's **12.00** 2point4 Children **12.40** Dad's Army **1.20** Outnumbered **2.00** Keeping Up Appearances **2.40** Last Of The Summer Wine **4.00** Dad's Army **4.40** Open All Hours **5.20** Keeping Up Appearances **6.00** Hi-De-Hi! Gladys is promoted **6.40** Dad's Army **8.00** Only Fools And Horses **8.40** Murder, They Hope **9.40** Bottom **11.00** Live At The Apollo **12.00** The Cockfields **12.35** Peep Show **1.45** Murder, They Hope **2.45-4.00** Bottom

## SKY COMEDY

**6.00pm Futurama** **6.30** Everybody Hates Chris **7.30** The US Office **9.00** Intelligence **10.00** Bloods **10.30** Sex And The City **11.45** The Late Late Show **12.40** The Tonight Show **1.30** Wellington Paranormal **2.30** Entourage **4.00-5.00** Everybody Hates Chris

## SKY WITNESS

**6.00pm** Nothing To Declare **8.00** Blue Bloods **9.00** FBI. Rina is critically wounded **10.00** Criminal Minds

**11.00** The Equalizer **12.00** FBI — Most Wanted. A racehorse and its groom are taken hostage **1.00** FBI **2.00** The Force — Manchester **3.00** Road Wars **5.00-6.00** Brit Cops — Rapid Response

## W

**6.00pm** Property Brothers — Forever Homes **7.00** Masterchef Australia **9.00** Emma Willis — Meet The Babies. Emma catches up with the families of babies born while she was working on a maternity unit **10.00** Nurses On The Ward **11.00** Inside The Ambulance — Coast And Country **12.00** 999 Rescue Squad **1.00-3.00** Tipping Point

## 5 STAR

**6.00pm** Home And Away **7.00** Bargain Brits On Benefits **8.00** Dirty Home Rescue **9.00** Killer At The Crime Scene **10.00** The Railway Killers. A woman goes missing, and is soon identified as the third victim **12.00** Killer Girlfriends **1.00** Bargain Brits On Benefits **2.00** Caught On Camera — Funniest Moments **3.05** Judge Judy **3.50-4.00** Entertainment News

## 5 USA

**6.00pm** NCIS. American crime drama **9.00** Criminal Minds **11.00** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit **3.35-4.00** Criminals — Caught On Camera



# TALKTV

**6.00 James Max** The top stories.  
**6.30 The Julia Hartley-Brewer Breakfast Show** Roundup.  
**10.00 The Independent Republic Of Mike Graham** Insights.  
**1.00 Ian Collins** Monologues, debates and viewers' calls.  
**4.00 Vanessa Feltz** Tackling the big stories of the day.  
**7.00 The News Desk** Presenter Tom Newton Dunn tackles the biggest stories of the day.  
**8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored** The host presents his verdict on the day's global events with an hour of debate.  
**9.00 The Talk** Discussion.  
**10.00 The James Whale Show**  
**11.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored**  
**12.00 The James Whale Show**  
**1.00 Darryl Morris** Roundup.  
**4.00 The Talk** Discussion.  
**5.00-6.00 James Max** Updates. Available on Sky 526; Freeview 237; Virgin 627; Freesat 217; YouTube, connected TVs and smart devices

# SKYMAX

**6.00pm Stargate SG-1** The team is sent to rescue a stranded scientist. (Series 5, ep 22, R)  
**7.00 Stargate SG-1 A** malfunction plunges the Earth into jeopardy. (S6, ep 1, R)  
**8.00 An Idiot Abroad** Karl Pilkington travels to Africa to spend time with gorillas. (R)  
**9.00 A League Of Their Own** With guests Kyle Walker, Russell Howard, Maisie Adam and David Walliams.  
**10.00 Cricket's Funniest Moments** Comical clips from the worlds of international and domestic cricket. (R)  
**10.30 The Russell Howard Hour** Topical comedy show.  
**11.15-12.15 Cobra — Cyberwar** The prime minister convenes an emergency Cobra meeting following the devastation in Kent. (Series 2, ep 2, R)

## COMEDY CENTRAL

**8.00am** Most Ridiculous: The Fast And The Foolish **8.35** Most Ridiculous: Cops And Robbers **9.00** Takeshi's Castle  
**10.00** Your Face Or Mine **11.00** Friends  
**9.00** Michael McIntyre's Big Show. With Camila Cabello **10.00** South Park  
**11.00** The Ren & Stimpy Show **1.00** South Park **2.00** The Ricky Gervais Show **3.00** Bob's Burgers **3.20** The Daily Show **3.55-5.00** Friends

## YESTERDAY

**6.00am** Railway Murders **8.00** Abandoned Engineering **9.00** The World At War **10.00** War Factories **11.00** Abandoned Engineering **12.00** The Architecture The Railways Built **1.00** Bangers And Cash **2.00** Abandoned Engineering **4.00** War Factories **5.00** The World At War **6.00** The Architecture The Railways Built **7.00** Abandoned Engineering **8.00** Bangers And Cash **9.00** Train Truckers **10.00** Bangers And Cash **11.00** Abandoned Engineering **12.00-1.00** The Architecture The Railways Built

## DAVE

**6.00pm** Taskmaster **7.00** House Of Games. With Nish Kumar and Clara Amfo **7.40** Room 101 **8.20** Would I Lie To You? **9.00** QI XL **10.00** Late Night Mash

# SKYATLANTIC

**6.00 Hotel Secrets** Insights.  
**7.45 Boardwalk Empire** Drama.  
**10.00 The Sopranos** Crime drama.  
**12.15 Six Feet Under** Drama series.  
**2.25 Game Of Thrones** (S2, ep 8)  
**3.30 Boardwalk Empire** Nucky makes a peace offering to Joe Masseria. (Series 4, ep 1)  
**4.40 Boardwalk Empire** Harlem gangster Dr Valentin Narcisse clashes with Chalky.  
**5.45 The Sopranos** Christopher and Paulie endure a hellish journey. (Series 3, ep 11) **6.50 The Sopranos** Tony's affair with Gloria turns violent.  
**7.55 Game Of Thrones** Tyrion defends King's Landing against Stannis Baratheon's naval assault. (Series 2, ep 9)  
**9.00 I Hate Suzie** Naomi is in hard-core damage control mode; and Suzie gives a disastrous interview. (4/8)  
**9.45 The Staircase** In 2003, old wounds reopen as the Petersons' eldest son, Clayton, returns home. (4/8)  
**11.00 House Of The Dragon** Game of Thrones prequel, with Paddy Considine. (4/10)  
**12.05 Gangs Of London** (4/9)  
**1.10 Mare Of Easttown** (4/7)  
**2.20 Munich Games** Political thriller. (3/6; German, Hebrew and Arabic with subtitles)  
**3.30 In Treatment** (Series 2, ep 21)  
**4.00-6.00 Hotel Secrets** Insights.



Henry's blues (Sky Arts, 8pm)

**11.00** Question Team. With Jo Brand  
**12.00** Mock The Week **12.40** QI **1.15** QI XL **2.25** Room 101 **2.55** Would I Lie To You? **3.25-4.00** Mock The Week

## FACTUAL

### NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

**6.00pm** Engineering New York Super Airport **7.00** Air Crash Investigation **8.00** Europe From Above **9.00** Wicked Tuna **10.00** To Catch A Smuggler **11.00** Air Crash Investigation **12.00** Car SOS **1.00-2.00** Wicked Tuna

### DISCOVERY

**6.00pm** Kindig Customs. A 1948 GMC truck **7.00** Junkyard Empire **8.00** Railroad Alaska **9.00** Naked And Afraid XL **10.00** Naked And Afraid — Alone **11.00** Yukon Men **12.00** The Alaska Triangle **1.00-2.00** Naked And Afraid XL

### PBS AMERICA

**5.25pm** Nazi Hunters **6.25** The Atom And Us **7.35** The Silk Road **8.50** The Last Voices Of World War One **9.50** Nazi Hunters **10.45-12.00** The Silk Road

### SKY DOCUMENTARIES

**6.00am** Urban Secrets **7.00** Discovering Peter Finch **8.00** The Directors. A profile of Nicolas Roeg **9.00** The 2000s **9.50** Allen v Farrow **11.00** The Vietnam War

# SPORT

## SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT

**6.00am** News **7.00** Good Morning Sports Fans **10.00** The Football Show **10.30** Rugby Greatest Games **10.40** LIVE Rugby Championship: Australia v New Zealand. Coverage of the match from the fifth round of fixtures, at Marvel Stadium in Melbourne. Kickoff at 10.45 **12.40** LIVE DP World Tour Golf. Coverage of day one of the Italian Open at Marco Simone Golf Club in Rome **5.30** News **6.00** LIVE Women's T20 Cricket: England v India. Coverage of the third match of the series **10.00** LIVE PGA Tour Golf. Day one of the Portland Classic at Columbia Edgewater Country Club **11.00** LIVE PGA Tour Golf. The Fortinet championship **12.30** LIVE NFL: Kansas City Chiefs v Los Angeles Chargers. At Arrowhead Stadium. Kickoff 1.15 **4.30-6.00** News

## EUROSPORT 1

**6.00am** Cycling. The Tour of Slovakia **7.00** Cycling. The Tour of Luxembourg **8.00** Australian Open Tennis **9.30** SailGP **10.00** Cycling. The Tour of Slovakia **11.00** Cycling. The Tour of Luxembourg **12.00** Cycling. The Tour of Tuscany **1.00** LIVE Cycling. Stage three of the Tour of Luxembourg **3.00** LIVE Cycling. Stage three of the Tour of Slovakia **4.30** LIVE Cycling. The Coppa Sabatini men's one-day race in Italy **5.35** Sailing — Spirit Of Yachting **6.05** 72 — A Gathering Of Champions **7.00** Cycling **10.00** Showjumping **11.00** Speedway Grand Prix **1.00** Hall Of Fame: London 2012 **2.00** Cycling **4.00-6.00** Speedway Grand Prix

## BT SPORT 1

**6.00am** ESPN FC **6.30** Serie A — Full Impact **7.00** Reload **7.15** WWE NXT **9.00** The Aussie Rules Show **9.30** ESPN FC **10.00** Premier League Review **11.00** Premier League Stories **11.30** FFA Cup **12.30** Down The Clubhouse **1.30** Hero CPL Highlights **2.30** LIVE Hero CPL: Barbados Royals v Jamaica Tallawah. The T20 cricket match at Queen's Park Oval in Port of Spain **6.45** Goals Reload **7.00** Premier League Reload **7.15** LIVE Uefa Europa League: Arsenal v PSV Eindhoven. At Emirates Stadium. Kickoff at 8.00 **10.30** The Football's On **11.30** Premier League — The Big Interview **12.00** LIVE MLB: New York Mets v Pittsburgh Pirates. Start-time at 12.20 **3.30** ESPN FC Presents: Gab & Juls **4.00-6.00** World Padel Tour

**12.00** Chernobyl — The Lost Tapes **1.50** My Name Is Francesco Totti **4.00** The Directors **5.00** Discovering Peter Finch **6.00** The 2000s **6.50** Allen v Farrow **8.00** The Vietnam War **9.00** Chaos In Kabul — Escaping The Taliban **10.00** The Longest War **11.40-12.10** Premier League Legends

## SKY NATURE

**6.00am** Wild Workers **7.00** Africa's Hidden Kingdoms **8.00** Monkey Life **9.00** Big Cat Country **10.00** Into The Wild — India **11.00** Brazil Untamed **12.00** Arabian Inferno **1.00** Monkey Life **2.00** Africa's Hidden Kingdoms **3.00** Into The Wild — India **4.00** Big Cat Country **5.00** Brazil Untamed **6.00** Arabian Inferno **7.00** Monkey Life **8.00** Shark Squad **9.00** Valley Of Flood And Fire **10.00** Brazil Untamed **11.00-12.00** Arabian Inferno

## SMITHSONIAN

**6.00am** Aerial America **7.00** Air Warriors **10.00** The Hunt For Escobar's Hippos **11.00** Miami Wild **12.00** Aerial America **1.00** The Pacific War In Colour **3.00** America In Colour **4.00** The Hunt For Escobar's Hippos **5.00** Miami Wild **6.00** Aerial America **8.00** Inside The Factory **9.00** How Did They Build That? **10.00** Ice Airport Alaska **11.00-12.00** How Did They Build That?

# RADIO

## PICK OF THE DAY



## Unclassified

**Radio 3, 11.30pm**  
Maxine Peake, pictured, sits in the *Listening Chair* to share a special piece of music from her past that changed how she felt about music as a teenager. In **Once Upon A Time** (Radio 4, 11.30am), Mel Harris discovers some of the books available to children who are facing death and bereavement. **The Philosophy And Film Podcast** explores the philosophical questions raised by the movies. *Clair Woodward*

## RADIO 4

**5.30** News **5.43** Prayer **5.45** Farming Today **5.58** Tweet Of The Day (R) **6.00** Today **8.31** (LW) Yesterday In Parliament **9.00** In Our Time. New run **9.45** Book Of The Week **9.45** (LW) Daily Service **10.00** Woman's Hour **11.00** Crossing Continents **11.30** Once Upon A Time. Discussing whether or not children's books can help people face death and grief **12.00** News **12.01** (LW) Shipping **12.04** You And Yours **12.30** All Consuming **1.00** The World At One **1.45** The Boy In The Woods **2.00** The Archers (R) **2.15** Drama: Murruration, by Christine Entwisle (R) **3.00** Ramblings. Clare Balding enjoys a hike in East Worldham, Hampshire **3.27** Appeal (R) **3.30** Open Book (R) **4.00** The Curious Cases Of Rutherford & Fry (R) **4.30** Inside Science **5.00** PM **5.54** (LW) Shipping **6.00** News **6.30** Michael Spicer — Before Next Door (R) **7.00** The Archers **7.15** Front Row **8.00** The Briefing Room **8.30** The Digital Human (R) **9.00** Inside Science (R) **9.30** In Our Time (R) **10.00** The World Tonight **10.45** Book At Bedtime **11.00** Your Place Or Mine **11.30** Today In Parliament **12.00** News **12.30** Book Of The Week (R) **12.48** Shipping **1.00** As World Service

## TIMES RADIO

**5.00** Anna Cunningham With Early Breakfast **6.00** Aasmah Mir And Stig Abell With Times Radio Breakfast **10.00** Matt Chorley. An insider's guide to politics **1.00** Mariella Frostrup. Cultural guests and big thinkers **4.00** John Pienaar At Drive. Conversation with political and economic guests **7.00** Henry Bonsu **10.00** Carole Walker **1.00** Stories Of Our Times **1.30** Red Box **2.00** Highlights From Times Radio

To get in touch with the *Times Radio* studio, text *TIMES* plus your message to 87222. Texts cost your standard message charge.

## RADIO 4 EXTRA

**5.00** Jake Yapp's Media Circus **5.30** Joe Lycett's Obsessions **6.00** Death May Surprise Us **6.30** Agatha Raisin **7.00** To Hull And Back **7.30** Michael Spicer — Before Next Door **8.00** The Small, Intricate Life Of Gerald C Potter **8.30** No Commitments **9.00** The Personality Test **9.30** Trevor's World Of Sport **10.00** Devonia **10.45** Short Works **11.00** Desert Island Discs **11.45** David Attenborough's Life Stories **12.00** The Small, Intricate Life Of Gerald C Potter **12.30** No Commitments **1.00** Death May Surprise Us **1.30** Agatha Raisin **2.00** Adventures Of A Young Naturalist **2.15** Eleanor Rising **2.30** In Search Of The Singing Postman **3.00** Devonia **3.45** Short Works **4.00** The Personality Test **4.30** Trevor's World Of Sport **5.00** To Hull And Back **5.30** Michael Spicer — Before Next Door **6.00** The Slide **6.30** Great Lives **7.00** The Small, Intricate Life Of Gerald C Potter **7.30** No Commitments **8.00** Death May Surprise Us **8.30** Agatha Raisin **9.00** Desert Island Discs **9.45** David Attenborough's Life Stories **10.00** Michael Spicer — Before Next Door **10.30** Craig Brown's Lost Diaries **10.55** The Comedy Club Interview **11.00** The Consultants **11.30-12.00** Weak At The Top

## LBC

**7.00** Nick Ferrari **10.00** James O'Brien **1.00** Shelagh Fogarty **4.00** Tom Swarbrick **6.00** Tonight With Andrew Marr **7.00** Iain Dale **10.00** Ian Payne **1.00** Darren Adam **4.00** Steve Allen

## RADIO 3

**6.30** Breakfast **9.00** Essential Classics **12.00** Composer Of The Week **1.00** Lunchtime Concert. The bass Brindley Sherratt sings Schubert lieder; the tenor Mark Padmore performs Fauré's song cycle *La Bonne Chanson*; and the Navarra Quartet play music by Bosmans **2.00** Afternoon Concert. At the George Enescu International festival, the Mahler Chamber Orchestra perform Haydn and Stravinsky **5.00** In Tune **7.00** In Tune Mixtape **7.30** In Concert. At the Usher Hall in Edinburgh, Susanna Malkki conducts the Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra in Sibelius' *Tapiola*, Kaija Saariaho's *Vista* and Dieter Ammann's *The Piano Concerto* (Gran Toccata), with Andreas Haefliger **10.00** Free Thinking **10.45** The Essay. Robert Adam questions who the arbiters of British Sign Language are **11.00** The Night Tracks Mix **11.30** Unclassified. With guest Maxine Peake **12.30** Through The Night

## CLASSIC FM

**6.00** Tim Lihoreau **9.00** Alexander Armstrong **12.00** Anne-Marie Minhall **4.00** John Brunning **7.00** Zeb Soanes **10.00** Margherita Taylor **1.00** Karthi Gnanasegaram **4.00** Lucy Coward

## RADIO 2

**6.30** Zoe Ball **9.30** Ken Bruce **12.00** Jeremy Vine **2.00** Steve Wright **5.00** Sara Cox **7.00** Jo Whiley **9.00** The Country Show **10.00** Trevor Nelson **12.00** OJ Borg **3.00** Sounds Of The 90s (R) **4.00** A Dance Through The Decades **4.30** Nikki Chapman

## VIRGIN RADIO

**6.30** The Chris Evans Breakfast Show **10.00** Eddy Temple-Morris **1.00** Tim Cocker **4.00** Jayne Middlemiss **7.00** Steve Denyer **10.00** Olivia Jones **1.00** Sean Goldsmith **4.00** Steve Denyer

## TALKSPORT

**5.00** Early Breakfast **6.00** Breakfast **10.00** Jim White And Simon Jordan **1.00** Hawksbee & Baker **4.00** Drive With Andy Goldstein And Darren Bent **7.00** Kick Off **10.00** Sports Bar **1.00** Extra Time



- 6.00 Regional News** Headlines.  
**9.15 Morning Live** Magazine.  
**10.00 Dom Does America** (R)  
**10.45 Claimed And Shamed** Scams. (Last in series, R)  
**11.15 Homes Under The Hammer** Properties at auction. (R)  
**12.15 Bargain Hunt** Near Exeter.  
**1.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**1.45 Doctors** Jimmi tries to get Bear to join his new venture.  
**2.15 Money For Nothing** Items.  
**3.00 Escape To The Country** (R)  
**3.45 The Bidding Room** (R)  
**4.30 Antiques Road Trip** Items.  
**5.15 Pointless** Unorthodox quiz.  
**6.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**6.30 Regional News** Update.  
**7.00 The One Show** Features.  
**7.30 We Are England** Reports.  
**8.00 Question Of Sport** Paddy McGuinness hosts the light-hearted quiz show, with Josh Warrington, Bianca Walkden, Clinton Morrison and Will Buxton joining the captains Ugo Monye and Sam Quek.  
**8.30 Celebrity Masterchef** The remaining contenders are challenged to cook and present a faultless three-course meal for judgment by John Torode and Gregg Wallace. (Last in series)  
**9.00 Have I Got News For You** The Labour MP Jess Phillips hosts the satirical quiz show, with the Conservative peer Ruth Davidson and the comedian Henning Wehn joining regular team captains Paul Merton and Ian Hislop.  
**9.30 CHOICE Am I Being Unreasonable?** New comedy series, with Daisy May Cooper and Selin Hizli. A bored Nic meets Jen and her life is lit up with laughter, but this also prompts a dark secret to bubble up to the surface. (1/6; see Critics' choice)  
**10.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**10.40 FILM: Braveheart** Stars Mel Gibson, Sophie Marceau and Patrick McGoohan. The medieval Scottish hero William Wallace fights to drive the English from his beloved homeland. Epic historical drama. (1995, 15)

**1.30-6.00 Joins BBC News**

**SCOTLAND 11.15** Homes Under The Hammer. **6.30** Reporting Scotland. **7.30** Accidental Renovators. **8.00** Iain Robertson Rambles. **10.40** Question Of Sport. **11.10** FILM: Braveheart. **2.00** BBC News.

- 6.30 Escape To The Country** (R)  
**7.15 Antiques Road Trip** (R)  
**8.00 The Repair Shop** (Signed, R)  
**9.00 News; Weather** Headlines.  
**12.15 Politics Live** Discussion.  
**1.00 Chase The Case** Game. (R)  
**1.45 Eggheads** Team quiz. (R)  
**2.15 CHOICE The Adventures Of Robin Hood** Stars Errol Flynn. The outlaw fights to save the king's throne and redistribute wealth to the downtrodden peasants. (1938, U; see Film choice)  
**3.55 The Best Dishes Ever** (R)  
**4.30 Murder, Mystery And My Family** The murder of a military veteran in 1825. (R)  
**5.15 Flog It!** Items in Reading. (R)  
**6.00 House Of Games** With Rob Deering, Katya Jones, Jayne Middlemiss and Phil Tufnell.  
**6.30 Unbeatable** Quiz show.  
**7.00 Grand Tours Of Scotland's Lochs** Paul Murton discovers a forgotten First World War German prison camp. (R)  
**7.30 Beechgrove** Calum Clunie and George Anderson check out more of what the garden has produced this year; and Carole Baxter visits an expert grower of chillies. (R)  
**8.00 Gardeners' World** Monty Don demonstrates how to prune summer fruiting raspberries, divides perennials and plants hyacinths in containers.  
**9.00 CHOICE Mortimer & Whitehouse — Gone Fishing** Bob Mortimer and Paul Whitehouse travel to the Crogen Estate in north Wales to fish the River Dee for grayling. (See Critics' choice)  
**9.30 CHOICE Martin Compston's Scottish Fling** The actor is given a taste of island life when his friend Phil MacHugh takes him on a journey back to his family's homeland of the Western Isles. (See Critics' choice)  
**10.00 Mock The Week** New run of the topical comedy quiz, hosted by Dara O Briain, with Hugh Dennis, Rhys James, Maisie Adam and Ed Byrne.  
**10.30 Newsnight** The day's events.  
**11.05 MOTDx** Discussion. (R)  
**11.35 Stewart Lee — Tornado** Stand-up performance filmed at York Theatre Royal. (R)  
**12.35 Panorama** (Signed, R)  
**1.05 Days That Shook The BBC** Documentary. (Signed, R)  
**2.05-2.35 Weatherman Walking** (Signed, Last in series, R)

**9.30** Gardeners' World **11.00** Martin Compston's Scottish Fling **11.30** Mock The Week **12.05** MOTDx **S4C** **6.00** Cyw **12.30** Heno **1.00** Priodas Pum Mil **2.00** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **2.05** Prynhawn Da **3.00** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **3.05** Noson Lawen **4.00** Awr Fawr: Cywion Bach **4.05** Odo **4.15** Sbarc **4.30** Stiwl **4.45** Deian A Loli **5.00** Stwnsh: Ar Goll Yn Oz **5.25** Gwboi A Twm Twm **5.40** Rygbi Pawb **5.55** Ffeil **6.00** Trefi Gwylt Iolo. Featuring toads from across Europe living on a street in Llanidloes

- 6.00 Good Morning Britain**  
**9.00 Lorraine** Lifestyle chat.  
**10.00 This Morning** Features.  
**12.30 Loose Women** Debate.  
**1.30 News; Weather** Reports.  
**2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal**  
**3.00 Tenable** A team of five family members answer questions.  
**4.00 Tipping Point** Gameshow.  
**5.00 The Chase** Quiz show.  
**6.00 Regional News** Update.  
**6.30 News; Weather** Reports.  
**7.30 Emmerdale** Liam returns home with Leyla but things are tense between them; Noah accepts a position as Marcus' apprentice; and Bernice confronts Rishi over ditching her at lunch.  
**8.00 Coronation Street** Gary is unhappy as Sharon visits Kelly to celebrate her engagement, and begs her not to ruin Kelly's life by revealing he killed her dad.  
**9.00 CHOICE Professor T** New run of the crime drama, with Ben Miller. A student is left badly burnt and in a coma after a house fire and the detectives investigating call in Professor T (Series 2, ep 1; see Critics' choice)  
**10.00 News At Ten** Bulletin.  
**10.45 Bradley & Barney Walsh — Breaking Dad** The actor and his son head to Hungary, where they take to the open waters of Lake Balaton to go high-speed catamaran sailing with an Olympic crew. (R)  
**11.10 The NFL Show** Laura Woods is joined by Jason Bell and Osi Umenyiora to present highlights of the opening match of week two between Kansas City Chiefs and Los Angeles Chargers.  
**12.05 Teleshopping** Goods.  
**3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal** (R)  
**3.50 Unwind** Daily relaxation.  
**5.05-6.00 Katie Piper's Breakfast Show** With guests Rosie Jones and Kevin Clifton. (R)



Down to a T: Ben Miller (ITV, 9pm)

**6.30** Garddio A Mwy. Meinir Gwylm makes homemade ketchup with her crop of tomatoes **6.57** Newyddion **7.00** Heno **7.30** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **8.00** Ironman Cymru. Lowri Morgan presents action from the mass-participation race in Tenby **8.55** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **9.00** Sgwrs Dan Y Lloer. Elin Fflur chats to the cage fighter Brett Johns **9.30** Prosiect Pum Mil. Efforts are made to refurbish Theatr Fach Llangeftni **10.30-11.35** Oci Oci Oci. Darts quiz, with Eleri Sion and Ifan Jones Evans

- 6.10 Countdown** Gameshow. (R)  
**6.50 3rd Rock From The Sun** (R)  
**7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond** Family comedy series. (R)  
**9.00 Frasier** American sitcom. (R)  
**10.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA** Advice. (R)  
**11.25 News; Weather** Reports.  
**11.30 The Great House Giveaway** Two strangers pair up to renovate a property in Llandudno, north Wales. (R)  
**12.30 Steph's Packed Lunch**  
**2.10 Countdown** Gameshow.  
**3.00 A Place In The Sun** Advice. (R)  
**4.00 Chateau DIY** An owner aims to finish opening up the entrance hall of his chateau.  
**5.00 Moneybags** Quiz show.  
**6.00 The Simpsons** The family relocates to a farm, where Homer discovers a talent for growing tomatoes. (R)  
**6.30 Hollyoaks** Chester soap. (R)  
**7.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**8.00 The Great British Bake Off — An Extra Slice** New run. Host Jo Brand is joined by celebrity fans Harry Hill, Melvin Odoom and Roisin Conaty to discuss the new batch of bakers and to tuck into the events of cake week.  
**9.00 Gogglebox** The armchair critics share their opinions on what they have been watching during the week, with cameras capturing their instant reactions.  
**10.00 The Last Leg** Adam Hills, Josh Widdicombe and Alex Brooker are joined by guests David Harewood and Judi Love for a comic review of the significant moments of the past seven days.  
**11.05 8 Out Of 10 Cats Does Countdown** Jimmy Carr hosts, as Sean Lock and Harry Hill take on Rosie Jones and Jon Richardson. (R)  
**12.10 One Night In Legoland** Alex Brooker and Josh Widdicombe enjoy an access-all-areas time in Legoland. (Last in series, R)  
**1.05 CHOICE Upgrade** Stars Logan Marshall-Green and Melanie Vallejo. A wheelchair-bound mugging victim seeks revenge with the aid of a computer chip implant. (2018, 15; see Film choice)  
**2.45 Come Dine With Me** (R)  
**5.05 Perfect House, Secret Location** Properties. (R)  
**5.20 Come Dine With Me** (R)  
**5.55-6.15 Find It, Fix It, Flog It** (R)

- 6.00 Milkshake!** Fun for children.  
**9.15 Jeremy Vine** Debate.  
**12.45 Holiday Homes In The Sun**  
**1.40 News; Weather** Reports.  
**1.45 Home And Away** Ziggy helps the band find a van; and Alf catches Marilyn in a lie.  
**2.15 Killer At The School Gates** Thriller, with Brianna Cohen. A single mother joins the parent-teacher association at her daughter's new school finds herself at odds with a power-hungry member.  
**4.00 Bargain Loving Brits By The Sea** Britons living the high life on a low budget in popular holiday resorts. (R)  
**5.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**6.00 Cash In The Attic** Curios.  
**6.55 News; Weather** Reports.  
**7.00 Grand Day Out In The Welsh Mountains** The comedian Susan Calman climbs the dramatic and spectacular peaks of north Wales, and stops off at the must-see tourist spot of the Tu Hwnt I'r Bont Tearoom. (R)  
**7.55 News; Weather** Reports.  
**8.00 The Cotswolds & Beyond** Pam Ayres heads to Highgrove Gardens, run by the Prince's Foundation and adjacent to the private residence of HRH the Prince of Wales, where Pam meets His Royal Highness himself.  
**9.00 Digging For Treasure** Dan Walker, Michaela Strachan and Raksha Dave set up camp in the shadow of Southwark Cathedral in London, focusing on mudlarking on the banks of the Thames. (Last in series)  
**10.00 FILM: Sudden Impact** Stars Clint Eastwood, Sondra Locke and Pat Hingle. 'Dirty' Harry Callahan returns from enforced leave to track down a vicious murderer, little realising the killer may be closer than he thinks. Gritty thriller. (1983, 18)  
**12.15 Police Interceptors** (R)  
**1.10 LeoVegas Live Casino Show**  
**3.10 Paxman On The Queen's Children** The lives of the queen's offspring. (1/2, R)  
**4.00 Paxman On The Queen's Children** Charles's plan for the monarchy. (R)  
**4.45 Amazing Cakes & Bakes** A visit to Ben and Jerry's Vermont HQ. (Last in series, R)  
**5.25 Entertainment News** Gossip.  
**5.30-6.00 Children's Shows**

## VARIATIONS

**BBC1 LONDON/NORTHEAST/ NORTH/BBC1 MIDLANDS 7.30** We Are England **ITV WALES 7.00** Welsh Lives **BBC1 WALES 7.30** Wales' Home Of The Year **8.00** Iolo — A Wild Life **10.40** Rewind — 60 Years Of Welsh Pop **11.10** Wales — Music Nation **12.10** Deepfake Porn — You Could Be Next **1.10** Ladhoo **1.35** BBC News **BBC2 WALES 7.00** Mortimer & Whitehouse — Gone Fishing **7.30** Scrums V: Cardiff v Munster. Both teams' opening contest of the season, live at Cardiff Arms Park. Kickoff 7.35

## YOU SAY

I have never been a regular viewer of **Countdown** (C4) but I was one of the bank-holiday casual viewers referred to by Colin Murray during the programme. It was a cracking contest and Murray's presence may make me a regular. He is undoubtedly the best yet.

**Pauline Jordan**

Please can Les Dennis continue as the host rather than that awful Colin Murray who should never be seen on TV again. So full of himself. A total misfit.

**John Ramus**



## CRITICS' CHOICE

**Am I Being Unreasonable?**  
(BBC1, 9.30pm)

After the BBC's lukewarm historical sitcom *The Witchfinder*, *This Country*'s Daisy May Cooper finds a better vehicle with this awkward comedy-drama, fished out of the gap between *Motherland*'s parenting horrors and the sickly paranoia of Billie Piper's *I Hate Suzie*. Co-written by Cooper and her real-life best friend Selin Hizli, it introduces Nic (Cooper), a woman hiding a tangle of secrets inside a picturesque country-cottage life. Hizli plays Jen, a new mum at the village school gates who seems to offer Nic the friendship that has eluded her. Lurking underneath the school fetes and mums' nights in, though, is a dark side that bubbles ever closer to the surface.

Victoria Segal



Beyond reason: Selin Hizli and Daisy May Cooper show their dark sides (BBC1, 9.30pm)

**Professor T (ITV, 9pm)**

Ben Miller returns as damaged genius Jasper Tempest, who solves crimes for the cops when he is not being a don at a fusty, tweedy Cambridge college. As series two begins of this remake of what was originally a Belgian hit, he is called in when an unknown arsonist sets fire to student flats. As usual, though, the whodunnit is rushed – it's hard not to, what with an "ITV hour" of under 50 minutes – and the episode's main strength is the cast, not the second-hand plot, particularly Emma Naomi as Tempest's police contact and Frances de la Tour as his domineering mother, Adelaide (see feature, page 18). Juliet Stevenson makes her debut as his shrink.

John Dugdale

**A Private Affair (Un Asunto Privado) (Amazon)**

French star Jean Reno plays a supporting role in a delightful Spanish 1940s-set screwball drama, as butler to a family charged with caring for their resentful daughter (Aura Garrido). Reminiscent of *Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries*, she runs towards danger in full ball gown and high heels.



Reno and Garrido (Amazon)

**Mortimer & Whitehouse — Gone Fishing (BBC2, 9pm)**

The friends head to north Wales in search of grayling and to muse on the burden of eternal life, eating pudding all day and the perils of doing what young people do. There is now a slight feeling that Mortimer is leaning into his schtick, but the results of his "lemonade dare" are hilarious.

**Martin Compston's Scottish Fling (BBC2, 9.30pm)**

The *Line of Duty* star heads to the Western Isles with pal Phil MacHugh, whose presence is suddenly justified by his having fluent Gaelic and a Uist background. Abandoning the lad banter, MacHugh seeks to explain a culture distinct from the mainland.

Helen Stewart

## FILM CHOICE

**The Adventures Of Robin Hood (BBC2, 2.15pm)**

After nearly 85 years, Michael Curtiz and William Keighley's swashbuckling romp definitely looks a touch quaint against more modern blockbusters. Yet see beyond the tights and the (glorious) Technicolor and this is still a supremely entertaining adventure with some sword fights that rival any fight sequence – and without the benefit of CG. Errol Flynn makes a very suave Robin. Many have tried to reinvent Robin Hood in grittier ways over the years but none of them has come close to making anything as enjoyable as this. (1938)

## Modern pioneer of popular culture

Quentin Tarantino's *Jackie Brown* gets a 25th-anniversary re-release this week, making it the perfect opportunity to revisit some of his best. There is not a lot of fat on his CV, but his criminal comedy-dramas *Pulp Fiction* (Paramount+) and *Reservoir Dogs* (Amazon) are unquestionably his greatest. Christoph Waltz is on Oscar-winning form in the Second World War fan-fiction *Inglourious Basterds* (Netflix) and the weightier *Django Unchained* (Netflix). Tarantino is probably at his most fun in *Kill Bill: Vol 1* (Netflix), with Uma Thurman slicing through some outrageously bloody action. His most recent, *Once Upon A Time In Hollywood* (Buy as stream or download) shows that he's still got it. *Jackie Brown* is still available on Paramount+ or Netflix.

Olly Richards

**Upgrade (C4, 1.05am)**

After an attack leaves his wife dead and his limbs paralysed, Grey Trace (Logan Marshall-Green) is offered a spinal implant that will restore his body – but the implant has a mind of its own. Leigh Whannell's utopian-future horror is daft but entirely in on the joke. (2018)

Olly Richards



Not so merry: Flynn (BBC2, 2.15pm)

## ON DEMAND

**Kleo (Netflix)**

It's *Killing Eve* meets *Deutschland 93* and you just know that's how the show's creators must have pitched it to Netflix. But, no matter, because once you get beyond its derivative aspects, this East German revenge thriller is a lot of fun, thanks largely

to the central performance by Jella Haase, playing the titular Kleo, a former Stasi assassin, and Dimitrij Schaad as Sven, the bumbling cop on her trail. Both actors bring a subtle depth and a melancholy to their roles that isn't immediately apparent in the clunky coincidences and slick action of the script, but they are the reasons that you want to keep watching.

**She Hulk — Attorney At Law (Disney+)**

Throwing your support behind a Marvel TV series is a dangerous business – but *She Hulk* is great fun. Tatiana Maslany is charismatic as the superhero who specialises in court cases involving superhumans; Tim Roth is thrillingly sinister as Emil "the Abomination" Blonsky; and the whole series is happy to be borderline ridiculous.

**Citizen Ashe (BBC iPlayer)**

Rex Miller and Sam Pollard's 2021 documentary about Arthur Ashe, the first black man to win Wimbledon (in 1975), is one of those great documentaries that begins with the Wikipedia version of a life and then digs deeper, becoming more fascinating and intricate, revealing layers in the life of a sportsman, diplomat and activist.

Andrew Male

**Funny Pages (Curzon Home Cinema)**

In his feature debut, Owen Kline directs like a slightly less confronting Todd Solondz (*Happiness*, *Welcome to the Dollhouse*). This is a darkly comic and inventive story of a young man (Daniel Zolghadri) who is determined to make a life as a comic-book artist and obsessively follows someone who might help his dream. Expect a wild ride. (2022) OR



## BBC3

- 7.00pm Top Gear** Putting off-roaders to the test.
- 8.00 Squad Dates** Dating show in which two sets of friends get together for group dates.
- 9.00 Avicii — True Stories** Documentary telling the story of the Swedish DJ.
- 10.35 Some Girls** Greenshoots Academy is shortlisted to feature in a documentary series. (Series 3, ep 4) **11.05 Some Girls** Holli's life becomes more complicated.
- 11.35 Some Girls** Amber takes charge of the girls' prom night plans.
- 12.05 Squad Goals — Dorking 'Til I Die** Calum Best takes over the reins of Dorking Wanderers Ladies FC.
- 1.05 Sky High Club — Scotland And Beyond** Reality series.
- 1.35 Dubai Hustle** Documentary.
- 2.05 Some Girls** Comedy series.
- 3.35-4.00 My Mate's A Bad Date**

## DRAMA

- 12.00 The Bill** Police drama series.
- 1.00 Classic EastEnders** Soap.
- 2.20 Monarch Of The Glen**
- 3.20 A Place To Call Home** Drama.
- 4.20 All Creatures Great And Small** Rural drama series.
- 5.20 Waiting For God** Sitcom.
- 6.00 Are You Being Served?**
- 6.40 'Allo 'Allo!** Classic comedy.
- 7.20 Last Of The Summer Wine**
- 8.00 Father Brown** The priest races to save Bunty from the hangman's noose. (S8, ep 3)
- 9.00 Detectorists** First episode of the comedy, with Mackenzie Crook and Toby Jones. (Series 1, ep 1) **9.40 Detectorists** A mole leaks information to a rival metal-detecting club.
- 10.20 New Tricks** (Series 11, ep 8)
- 11.40 Spooks** (Series 5, ep 4)
- 1.00 Bad Girls** (Series 3, ep 12)
- 2.20-4.00 Les Misérables** Drama.

## FILMS

## SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

- 6.00am** Sky Cinema Preview **7.00** Sing 2 (2021, U) **9.20** Marry Me. Stars Jennifer Lopez. Two music stars prepare to get married, but then she learns — seconds before her vows — that he has been unfaithful. (2022, 12)
- 11.40** Murder At Yellowstone City (2022, 15) **1.55** American Carnage (2022, 15) **3.55** Sing 2. As 7am. **6.00** Last Looks. A disgraced cop's life of solitude ends when a PI recruits him to investigate a murder. (2021, 15) **8.00** Marry Me. Details as 9.20am. **10.00** Scream. A new killer dons the Ghostface mask and targets a group of teenagers. (2022, 18) **12.10** Stowaway (2022, 15) **1.55** Last Looks. Details as 6pm. **4.05-6.15** The 355 (2022, 12)

## SKY CINEMA THRILLER

- 1.40pm** Finding Steve McQueen (2019, 15) **3.20** The Manchurian Candidate (2004, 15) **5.35** Stillwater (2021, 15) **8.00** The Client. A child witness hires a lawyer to protect him from the mafia. (1994, 15) **10.05** Brooklyn's Finest. Three police officers all face dilemmas as their careers converge at a single moment (2009, 18) **12.20-2.35** Donnie Brasco (1997, 18)

## BBC4

- 7.00pm Ultimate Cover Versions At The BBC** Sixty years of cover performances from the corporation's archive.
- 8.00 Top Of The Pops** With performances by Dannii Minogue, Paul Weller and 4 Non Blondes. **8.30 Top Of The Pops** Performances by Shara Nelson, Roxette and Urban Cookie Collective.
- 9.00 Carole King — In Concert** A 1971 performance.
- 9.30 Carole King — Natural Woman** A profile of the American singer-songwriter.
- 10.25 Later** A compilation of performances from recent series featuring veteran and undiscovered artists.
- 11.25 The Spice Girls At The BBC** A selection of performances.
- 12.25 Top Of The Pops 1.25 As 9.30pm**
- 2.15 Carole King — In Concert**
- 2.50-3.50 Later** Performances.

## SKYARTS

- 6.00pm Alfred Hitchcock Presents:** The Legacy. A prince takes a romantic interest in a housewife.
- 6.30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents:** Mink. A woman buys a stolen mink coat.
- 7.00 Classic Albums** Phil Collins gives a candid insight into the making of his first solo album, Face Value.
- 8.00 Discovering The Beach Boys** The career of the band.
- 8.30 Brian Wilson Plays Baloise Session** The singer-songwriter performs at the Swiss festival in 2016, playing Beach Boys classics including I Get Around, Wouldn't It Be Nice and Good Vibrations.
- 10.30 Berlin Live — Blondie** A 2017 performance by the band.
- 11.50-12.20 The Ronnie Wood Show** With Pattie Boyd.

## SKY CINEMA GREATS

- 6.00am** Carry On Cleo (1964, PG) **7.50** The Ides Of March (2011, 15) **9.45** Kramer vs Kramer (1979, PG) **11.45** Barbarella (1968, 15) **1.30** First Knight (1995, PG) **4.00** Life Is Beautiful (1997, PG) **6.00** Sunset Boulevard. A faded film star persuades a writer to help her make a comeback. (1950, PG) **8.00** An Officer And A Gentleman. A navy recruit has a romance with a factory worker. (1982, 15) **10.10** Nashville. A portrait of American cultural life. (1975, 15) **12.55** The Ides Of March. Details as 7.50am. **2.40** Sunset Boulevard. Details as 6pm. **4.35-6.10** Carry On Cleo. Details as 6am.

## SKY CINEMA SELECT

- 3.15pm** Suicide Squad (2016, 15) **5.25** Wonder Woman 1984. Diana Prince must contend with Maxwell Lord, whose desire for extreme wealth sends the world down a path of destruction. (2020, 12) **8.00** Spider-Man — No Way Home. Peter Parker asks Doctor Strange for help to change the past, but his spell goes wrong and a host of enemies from other worlds appear. (2021, 12) **10.30** The Dark Knight Rises (2012, 12) **1.15** Limitless (2011, 15) **3.05** Monster Family (2017, PG) **4.45-6.35** Monster Family 2 (2021, PG)

## ITV2

- 6.00pm Catchphrase** Gameshow.
- 7.00 Secret Crush** A man lays his heart on the line.
- 8.00 Bob's Burgers** Tina enrolls in a programme that sends a robot version of herself to school. (Series 7, ep 8)
- 8.30 Bob's Burgers** Bob tries to impress Linda with a romantic gesture.
- 9.00 FILM: 2 Fast 2 Furious** Stars Paul Walker and Tyrese Gibson. A disgraced cop is given a chance to redeem himself by going undercover to bring a drug trafficker to justice. Misfiring sequel. (2003, 12; includes FYI Daily)
- 11.10 Family Guy** Meg has fun partying with Peter when he takes her to a college. (Series 12, ep 19) **11.40-12.10 Family Guy** Three traditional fairy tales are retold, Quahog-style. (Series 12, ep 10)

## ITV4

- 6.00pm Darts** Jacqui Oatley presents live coverage of day one of the World Series finals at Afas Live in Amsterdam, Holland, featuring eight first-round matches, played over the best of 11 legs. With analysis from Chris Mason and Alan Warriner-Little, commentary by Stuart Pyke and John Rawling, and interviews from Dan Dawson.
- 10.00 All Elite Wrestling — Dynamite** Hard-hitting action, featuring some of the biggest stars on the roster.
- 12.05 On The Road** Featuring a visit to Lamborghini country.
- 1.05 Auto Mundial** The latest news from the world of cars.
- 1.35 Motorsport Mundial** Action.
- 2.05 The Protectors** Insights.
- 2.40 Unwind** Daily relaxation.
- 3.00-6.00 Teleshopping** Goods.

## ITV3

- 6.00 Classic Coronation Street**
- 7.30 Classic Emmerdale** Soap.
- 8.05 That's My Boy** Sitcom.
- 9.15 The Royal** Hospital series.
- 11.30 Heartbeat** Rural drama.
- 1.40 Classic Emmerdale** Soap.
- 2.45 Classic Coronation Street**
- 3.50 Poirot** Hastings and a reluctant Poirot attend a grouse shoot. (S3, ep 11) **4.55 Poirot** An archaeologist dies shortly after smashing the seal of an ancient Egyptian tomb. (Series 5, ep 1)
- 6.00 Heartbeat** A renowned Polish violinist plans to perform at the village hall — but disaster strikes when an expensive instrument is stolen. **6.00 Heartbeat** Sgt Merton finds himself under pressure when a group of teenagers plans a 'chicken run' with stolen cars.
- 8.00 McDonald & Dodds** Social media influencer Rose Boleyn checks into an exclusive clinic for a nose job, but the procedure goes horribly wrong and she dies on the operating table. (S3, ep 3)
- 10.00 Maigret** After a suspected jewel thief is found murdered, the detective investigates the residents of the dead man's apartment block. (S1, ep 1)
- 11.45 Inspector Morse** (S7, ep 2)
- 2.05 Unwind** Daily relaxation.
- 2.30-6.00 Teleshopping** Goods.



Metal gurus (Drama, 9pm)

## E4

- 6.00pm The Big Bang Theory** Sheldon and Howard stake their most coveted comic books on a bet. (Series 3, ep 2) **6.30 The Big Bang Theory** Sheldon tries to modify Penny's behaviour.
- 7.00 Hollyoaks** Sid visits his former drug-dealing boss.
- 7.30 The Big Bang Theory** Bernadette takes an interest in physics. (Series 3, ep 10)
- 8.00 Below Deck — Mediterranean** The crew prepares for the next charter, with the passengers hailing from Oklahoma.
- 9.00 FILM: War Of The Worlds** Stars Tom Cruise. A divorced father tries to protect his two children as alien war machines start to wipe out the human race. Superior sci-fi thriller. (2005, 12)

11.15-12.20 Naked Attraction

## MORE4

- 5.55pm Car SOS** Renovating a 1929 Rolls-Royce Doctors Coupe.
- 6.55 Escape To The Chateau** Dick and Angel transform an eight-tonne river boat into luxury guest accommodation.
- 8.00 Wondrous Wales** A visit to the slopes of the Brecon Beacons, where a farmer's flock needs to be brought down from the mountains.
- 9.00 Agatha Christie's Hjerson** The search for the suspect intensifies, and with Oscar at the hospital and Harriet back in Hjerson's life, the case becomes personal. (4/8; Swedish with subtitles)
- 10.00 24 Hours In A&E** A woman is brought in with possible spinal injuries. **11.05-12.05 24 Hours In A&E** A retired doctor is treated following a horse-riding accident.

## ENTERTAINMENT

## GOLD

- 7.30am** Keeping Up Appearances **8.00** Outnumbered **8.35** 2point4 Children **9.15** Hi-De-Hi! **9.55** Open All Hours **10.35** Last Of The Summer Wine **11.55** Desmond's **12.25** 2point4 Children **1.00** Dad's Army **2.20** Keeping Up Appearances **2.55** Last Of The Summer Wine **4.10** Dad's Army **4.50** Open All Hours **5.25** Keeping Up Appearances **6.00** Hi-De-Hi! **6.40** Dad's Army **8.00** Only Fools And Horses **9.20** Bottom **10.35** Only Fools And Horses **11.55** All Round To Mrs Brown's **1.05** The Cockfields **1.40** Peep Show **2.35** Live At The Apollo **3.35-4.00** Peep Show

## SKY COMEDY

- 6.00pm** Futurama **6.30** Everybody Hates Chris **7.30** The US Office **9.00** Girls **10.00** Late Late Show Best Of The Week **11.00** The Rehearsal **11.35** The Late Late Show **12.30** Sex And The City **1.40** The Tonight Show **2.30** Entourage **4.00-5.00** Everybody Hates Chris

## SKY WITNESS

- 6.00pm** Nothing To Declare. Documentary **8.00** Blue Bloods **9.00** FBI — Most Wanted. Barnes and Jess are caught in the middle of a mall shooting

- 10.00** Blue Bloods. Frank contends with a potentially dirty cop **11.00** The Equalizer **12.00** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit **1.00** FBI **2.00** The Force — Manchester **3.00** Road Wars **5.00-6.00** Brit Cops — Law & Disorder

## W

- 6.00pm** Property Brothers — Forever Homes **7.00** Masterchef Australia **8.30** 999 Rescue Squad **9.30** Inside The Ambulance. Paramedics are called to a 67-year-old with a lung condition who is struggling to breathe **10.00** The Catherine Tate Show **11.50** Nurses On The Ward **12.50-3.00** Tipping Point

## 5 STAR

- 6.00pm** Home And Away **7.00** Caught On Camera — Funniest Moments **8.00** Shoplifters & Scammers — At War With The Law **9.00** FILM: Elysium. Stars Matt Damon and Jodie Foster **11.10** FILM: Hellboy. Stars David Harbour and Milla Jovovich **1.30** Dirty Home Rescue **2.35** Wanted **3.25** Judge Judy **3.45-4.00** Entertainment News

## 5 USA

- 6.00pm** NCIS **9.00** Private Eyes. A Mexican telenovela is plagued with near-fatal accidents **10.00** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit **3.35-4.00** Criminals — Caught On Camera



# TALKTV

- 6.00 James Max** Discussion.  
**6.30 Jeremy Kyle** Political debate.  
**10.00 The Independent Republic Of Mike Graham** Discussion.  
**1.00 Ian Collins** Monologues, debates and viewers' calls.  
**4.00 Vanessa Feltz** Analysis.  
**7.00 The News Desk** Presenter Tom Newton Dunn tackles the biggest stories of the day.  
**8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored Best Of** Piers presents his verdict on the week's events.  
**9.00 The Talk** A panel of well-known faces debate the topics everybody is talking about.  
**10.00 The James Whale Show**  
**11.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored Best Of** Highlights.  
**12.00 The James Whale Show**  
**1.00 Darryl Morris** Debate.  
**4.00-The Talk** Discussion.  
**5.00-6.00 Cristo** Chat.

Available on Sky 526; Freeview 237; Virgin 627; Freesat 217; YouTube, connected TVs and smart devices

# SKYMAX

- 6.00pm Stargate SG-1** The team risks losing the portal for ever. (Series 6, ep 2, R) **7.00 Stargate SG-1** A salvage operation goes wrong. (R)  
**8.00 Freddie Fries Again** Andrew Flintoff and Rob Penn's tour concludes in Ireland. (R)  
**9.00 Rob & Romesh vs NBA Basketball** Rob Beckett and Romesh Ranganathan learn about the sport. (R)  
**10.00 A League Of Their Own** With guests Kyle Walker, Russell Howard, Maisie Adam and David Walliams. (R)  
**11.00 Never Mind The Buzzcocks** Comedy music quiz hosted by Greg Davies, with guests Nile Rodgers, Russell Howard and Mae Muller. (R)  
**11.45-12.30 The Russell Howard Hour** Topical comedy and entertainment show. (R)

## COMEDY CENTRAL

- 8.00am** Most Ridiculous: Man vs Beast **8.35** Most Ridiculous: Friends  
**9.00** Takeshi's Castle **10.00** Your Face Or Mine **11.00** Friends **9.00** FILM: American Pie — Reunion **11.10** Ridiculousness **12.05** South Park **2.05** The Ren & Stimpy Show **3.45** The Daily Show **4.15-5.00** Friends

## YESTERDAY

- 6.00am** Railway Murders **8.00** Abandoned Engineering **9.00** The World At War **10.00** War Factories **11.00** Abandoned Engineering **12.00** The Architecture The Railways Built **1.00** Bangers And Cash **2.00** Abandoned Engineering **4.00** War Factories **5.00** The World At War **6.00** The Architecture The Railways Built **7.00** Abandoned Engineering **8.00** Hornby — A Model World **9.00** Steam Train Britain **10.00** Bangers And Cash **11.00** Abandoned Engineering **12.00-1.00** The Architecture The Railways Built

## DAVE

- 6.00pm** Taskmaster **7.00** House Of Games **7.40** Room 101 **8.20** Would I Lie To You? **9.00** QI XL. With guests Cariad Lloyd, Dermot O'Leary and Phill Jupitus **10.00** QI **10.40** Would I Lie To You? **12.00** Mock The Week **12.40** QI

# SKYATLANTIC

- 6.00 Storm City** Insights.  
**7.45 Boardwalk Empire** Drama.  
**10.00 The Sopranos** Crime drama.  
**12.15 Six Feet Under** Drama series.  
**2.25 Game Of Thrones** (S2, ep 9)  
**3.30 Boardwalk Empire** Nucky has reservations about investing in a Tampa land deal. (Series 4, ep 3)  
**4.40 Boardwalk Empire** Rothstein agrees to bankroll Nucky's Tampa deal.  
**5.45 The Sopranos** Jackie Jr goes into hiding after his botched armed robbery. (S3, ep 13)  
**6.50 The Sopranos** Carmela frets about the family's finances. (Series 4, ep 1)  
**7.55 Game Of Thrones** Jon proves his worth to Qhorin Halfhand. (Series 2, ep 10)  
**9.00 Munich Games** Jackie Igeliski is blackmailed. (3/6)  
**10.00 House Of The Dragon** Game of Thrones prequel, with Paddy Considine. (4/10)  
**11.05 We Own This City** Maurice Ward recounts how Jenkins remained unscathed despite many illegal incidents. (4/6)  
**12.15 The Wire** Omar agrees to testify in the Gant murder. (S1, ep 6) **1.20 The Wire** A drugs resupply is intercepted.  
**2.25 The Wire** Carver and Herc arrest a senator's driver.  
**3.30 In Treatment** (S2, ep 22)  
**4.00-6.00 Storm City** Insights.



Wedding daze: Lopez (SCP, 8pm)

- 1.15** QI XL **2.25** Room 101 **2.55** Would I Lie To You? **3.25-4.00** Mock The Week

## FACTUAL

### NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

- 6.00pm** Airport Mega Move **7.00** Air Crash Investigation **8.00** 9/11 — One Day In America **10.00** New Air Force One — Flying Fortress. **11.00** Air Crash Investigation **12.00** Car SOS. A 1987 MG Metro 6R4 **1.00-2.00** Wicked Tuna

### DISCOVERY

- 6.00pm** Kindig Customs **7.00** Junkyard Empire **8.00** Gold Rush **9.00** Expedition Unknown. Josh digs into the swamp to hunt the lost fortune of the Ashley Gang **10.00** UFO Witness **11.00** Yukon Men **12.00** Mysteries Of The Deep **1.00-2.00** Expedition Unknown

### PBS AMERICA

- 5.25pm** Nazi Hunters **6.20** Riveted — The History Of Jeans **7.30** The Silk Road **8.50** The Last Voices Of World War One **9.50** Nazi Hunters. The capture of Klaus Barbie **10.45-12.00** The Silk Road

### SKY DOCUMENTARIES

- 6.00am** Urban Secrets. Insights **7.00** Discovering Gene Wilder **8.00** The Directors **9.00** The 2000s **9.50** Allen v Farrow **11.00** The Vietnam War

# SPORT

## SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT

- 6.00am** News **7.00** Good Morning Sports Fans **8.00** **LIVE** NPC Rugby: Taranaki v Manawatu. Kickoff at 8.05  
**10.00** The Football Show **12.00** News **12.30** **LIVE** DP World Tour Golf. Coverage of day two of the Italian Open at Marco Simone Golf Club in Rome  
**5.30** **LIVE** PGA Tour Golf. The Fortinet championship **7.00** **LIVE** FNF: Aston Villa v Southampton. Coverage of the Premier League encounter at Villa Park. Kickoff at 8.00 **10.30** **LIVE** LPGA Tour Golf. The Portland Classic **11.00** **LIVE** PGA Tour Golf. The Fortinet championship **2.00-6.00** News

## EUROSPORT 1

- 6.00am** Cycling. The Tour of Slovakia **7.00** Cycling. The Tour of Luxembourg **8.00** Roland-Garros **9.30** Discovery Golf **10.00** Cycling. The Coppa Sabatini **11.00** Cycling. The Tour of Slovakia **12.00** Cycling. The Tour of Luxembourg **1.00** **LIVE** Cycling. Coverage of stage four of the Tour of Luxembourg **3.00** **LIVE** Cycling. Stage four of the Tour of Slovakia **4.30** Cycling. Championship of Flanders **5.30** SailGP **6.00** 72 — A Gathering Of Champions **7.00** Cycling **10.00** 72 — A Gathering Of Champions **11.00** Speedway Grand Prix **1.00** Hall Of Fame: Olympics **2.00** Cycling **4.00** British Speedway **5.00-6.00** FIA World Endurance Championship

## BT SPORT 1

- 6.00am** ESPN FC **6.30** Premier League — The Big Interview **7.00** WWE Raw Highlights **8.00** WWE NXT Highlights **9.00** Premier League Stories **9.30** ESPN FC **10.00** The Aussie Rules Show **10.30** **LIVE** AFL. Coverage of the first preliminary final **1.30** Uefa Europa League Highlights Show **2.30** ESPN FC **3.00** WWE NXT **4.45** Reload **5.00** Uefa Champions League Review **6.00** Currie Club **6.30** Scottish Football Extra **7.00** **LIVE** Premiership Rugby Union: Northampton Saints v London Irish. Coverage from Franklin's Gardens. Kickoff 7.45 **10.00** Sport In Focus **10.15** MotoGP — ICYMI **10.30** UFC. A look ahead to Cory Sandhagen taking on Song Yadong **11.00** WWE NXT Highlights **12.00** WWE Smackdown Highlights **1.00** **LIVE** WWE Friday Night Smackdown **3.00** Premier League Preview **3.30** Scottish Football Extra **4.00** Currie Club **4.30** Premier League Preview **5.00-6.00** Fishing — On The Bank

- 12.00** Well Groomed **1.40** My Icon — Steve Brown **2.00** Dave Not Coming Back **4.00** The Directors **5.00** Discovering Gene Wilder **6.00** The 2000s **6.50** Allen v Farrow **8.00** The Vietnam War **9.00** Richard Pryor — Omit The Logic. A profile of the comedian. **10.40-12.40** Lennox — The Untold Story

## SKY NATURE

- 6.00am** Wild Workers **7.00** Extreme Africa **8.00** The Predator's Playbook **9.00** Malawi Wildlife Rescue **10.00** Into The Wild — India **11.00** Brazil Untamed **12.00** Arabian Inferno **1.00** The Predator's Playbook **2.00** Extreme Africa **3.00** Into The Wild — India **4.00** Malawi Wildlife Rescue **5.00** Brazil Untamed **6.00** Arabian Inferno **7.00** The Predator's Playbook **8.00** Hope For Wildlife. Double bill **9.00** Wild Tales From The Farm **10.00** Brazil Untamed **11.00-12.00** Arabian Inferno

## SMITHSONIAN

- 6.00am** Aerial America **10.00** Combat Ships **1.00** The Hunt For Escobar's Hippos **2.00** Miami Wild **3.00** Aerial America **4.00** How Did They Build That? **6.00** Ice Airport Alaska **7.00** Aerial Britain **8.00** Tomb Hunters **10.00** Siege Of Masada. The events surrounding the deaths of 960 Jewish rebels **11.00-12.00** Tomb Hunters

# RADIO

## PICK OF THE DAY



## Late Junction

**Radio 3, 11pm**  
Verity Sharp shares an exclusive mixtape from the Lou Reed Archive, including some unheard 1965 demo tracks and some early recordings of him talking about and performing his poetry. The comedian and environmental economist Matt Winning looks at the specific ways Britain generates carbon and if we can do more to reduce it in **Net Zero — A Very British Problem** (Radio 4, 11am).  
*Clair Woodward*

## RADIO 4

- 5.30** News **5.43** Prayer **5.45** Farming Today **5.58** Tweet Of The Day (R) **6.00** Today **8.31** (LW) Yesterday In Parliament **9.00** The Reunion (R) **9.45** Book Of The Week **9.45** (LW) Daily Service **10.00** Woman's Hour **11.00** Net Zero — A Very British Problem. New series. What lies ahead if Britain is to eliminate carbon emissions by 2050 **11.30** Relativity **12.00** News **12.01** (LW) Shipping **12.04** Paul Verhoeven's American Future (R) **1.00** The World At One **1.45** The Boy In The Woods **2.00** The Archers (R) **2.15** Drama: Exemplar, by Dan Rebellato, with Ben and Max Ringham **2.45** Living With The Gods (R) **3.00** Gardeners' Question Time. Peter Gibbs presents from RHS Rosemoor in north Devon **3.45** Short Works. New run **4.00** Last Word **4.30** More Or Less (R) **5.00** PM **5.54** (LW) Shipping **6.00** News **6.30** The News Quiz **7.00** The Archers **7.15** Screenshot **8.00** Any Questions? The panel in Morpeth includes Dehenna Davison MP and Tim Farron MP **8.50** A Point Of View **9.00** The Boy In The Woods **10.00** The World Tonight **10.45** Book At Bedtime **11.00** Great Lives (R) **11.30** Today In Parliament **12.00** News **12.30** Book Of The Week (R) **12.48** Shipping **1.00** As World Service

## TIMES RADIO

- 5.00** Anna Cunningham With Early Breakfast **6.00** Chloe Tilley And Calum Macdonald With Times Radio Breakfast **10.00** Matt Chorley **1.00** Ruth Davidson **4.00** Cathy Newman At Drive. Friday's headlines and discussions **7.00** Michael Portillo. Cultured conversation and political interview **10.00** Kait Borsay. Late-night conversation **1.00** Stories Of Our Times **1.30** Red Box **2.00** Highlights From Times Radio

To get in touch with the Times Radio studio, text TIMES plus your message to 87222. Texts cost your standard message charge.

## RADIO 4 EXTRA

- 5.00** To Hull And Back **5.30** Michael Spicer — Before Next Door **6.00** Death May Surprise Us **6.30** Agatha Raisin **7.00** Miracles R Us **7.30** Ed Reardon's Week **8.00** It Sticks Out Half A Mile **8.30** Thirty Minutes Worth **9.00** Say The Word **9.30** The Circle **10.00** Devonia **10.45** Short Works **11.00** Podcast Radio Hour **12.00** It Sticks Out Half A Mile **12.30** Thirty Minutes Worth **1.00** Death May Surprise Us **1.30** Agatha Raisin **2.00** Adventures Of A Young Naturalist **2.15** Eleanor Rising **2.30** The Invisible College **3.00** Devonia **3.45** Short Works **4.00** Say The Word **4.30** The Circle **5.00** Miracles R Us **5.30** Ed Reardon's Week **6.00** The Slide **6.30** Sounds Natural **7.00** It Sticks Out Half A Mile **7.30** Thirty Minutes Worth **8.00** Death May Surprise Us **8.30** Agatha Raisin **9.00** Podcast Radio Hour **10.00** Ed Reardon's Week **10.30** Mitch Benn's Crimes Against Music **11.00** What The Future? **11.30-12.00** James Acaster's Perfect Sounds

## LBC

- 7.00** Nick Ferrari **10.00** James O'Brien **1.00** Shelagh Fogarty **4.00** Tom Swarbrick **6.00** Lewis Goodall **9.00** The Consumer Hour **10.00** Nick Abbot **1.00** Clive Bull **4.00** Richard Spurr

## RADIO 3

- 6.30** Breakfast **9.00** Essential Classics **12.00** Composer Of The Week **1.00** Lunchtime Concert. Mark Padmore sings Welsh folksong settings by Beethoven; the Wihan Quartet perform Dvorak's 'American' Quartet; and Viktoria Mullova plays Beethoven's Violin Sonata No 4 Op 23 **2.00** Afternoon Concert. The Bamberg Symphony Orchestra perform works by Haydn, Mozart and Stravinsky **4.30** The Listening Service (R) **5.00** In Tune **7.00** In Tune Mixtape **7.30** In Concert. At Edinburgh's Usher Hall, Les Siècles and François-Xavier Roth perform Stravinsky's Rite Of Spring, with Véronique Gens (soprano), Julien Behr (tenor) and Jean-Jean-Sebastien Bou Bou (baritone) **10.00** The Verb. Ian McMillan presents **10.45** The Essay. Christopher Laing gives a personal account of how he started SignStrokes **11.00** Late Junction. A mixtape from the Lou Reed Archive **1.00** Piano Flow With Lianne La Havas (R) **2.00** Happy Harmonies With Laufey (R) **3.00** Through The Night

## CLASSIC FM

- 6.00** Tim Lihoreau **9.00** Alexander Armstrong **12.00** Anne-Marie Minhall **4.00** John Brunning **7.00** Zeb Soanes **10.00** Margherita Taylor **1.00** Katie Breathwick **4.00** Sam Pittis

## RADIO 2

- 6.30** The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show **9.30** Ken Bruce **12.00** Jeremy Vine **2.00** Steve Wright **5.00** Sara Cox **7.00** Michelle Visage **9.00** The Good Groove **11.00** The Rock Show **12.00** Romesh Ranganathan — For The Love Of Hip-Hop **1.00** My Life In A Mixtape (R) **2.00** Radio 2 Unwinds (R) **3.00** TBA **4.00** Sophie Ellis-Bextor's Kitchen Disco

## VIRGIN RADIO

- 6.30** Chris Evans **10.00** Eddy Temple-Morris **1.00** Tim Cocker **4.00** Jayne Middlemiss **7.00** Ben Jones **10.00** Stu Elmore **1.00** Emma Nolan

## TALKSPORT

- 5.00** Early Breakfast **6.00** Breakfast **10.00** Jim White And Simon Jordan **1.00** Hawksbee And Jacobs **4.00** Drive With Andy Goldstein And Darren Bent **7.00** GameDay Countdown **10.00** Sports Bar **1.00** Extra Time





Private dancers: but which celebrity will get which pro? (BBC1, 6.10pm)

## BBC1

- 6.00 Breakfast** The latest reports.  
**10.00 Saturday Kitchen** Cooking.  
**11.30 Mary Berry — Cook & Share** Recipe suggestions. (R)  
**12.00 Football Focus** Discussion.  
**1.00 News; Weather** Headlines.  
**1.15 Bargain Hunt** Curios. (R)  
**2.15 FILM: The BFG** Stars Mark Rylance. An orphaned girl befriends a benevolent giant. Visually dazzling. (2016, PG)  
**4.00 Final Score** Football results.  
**5.10 News; Weather** Reports.  
**5.30 The Hit List** A new run of the music-based quiz begins with a Strictly-themed edition.  
**6.10 Strictly Come Dancing** New run. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman host, with guests John Legend and last year's winners, Rose Ayling-Ellis and Giovanni Pernice.  
**8.00 Blankety Blank** New run. Bradley Walsh hosts the quiz show, in which celebrities help contestants win prizes.  
**8.35 Casualty** Hospital drama with the staff and patients of Holby's accident and emergency department.  
**9.25 The Secrets She Keeps** Adaptation of Michael Robotham's novel, with Laura Carmichael.  
**10.10 News; Weather** Reports.  
**10.30 Match Of The Day** Highlights of the latest matches, including Wolverhampton Wanderers v Manchester City.  
**11.55 FILM: A Million Little Pieces** Stars Aaron Taylor-Johnson and Billy Bob Thornton. A drug-dependent young man is interned in an institution for the addicted. Predictable drama. (2018, 15)  
**1.45 Joins BBC News** Update.  
**6.00 Breakfast** The latest reports.  
**7.35 Match Of The Day** Action. (R)  
**9.00 Sunday With Laura Kuenssberg** Discussion.  
**10.00 Politics** News and debate.  
**10.30 Sunday Morning Live**  
**11.30-12.00 Homes Under The Hammer** Property. (R)

**SCOTLAND 4.00** Sportscene Results. **11.55** Sportscene. Recent action. **12.55** FILM: A Million Little Pieces. Drama. **2.45** BBC News.

## BBC2

- 6.35 Children's Shows** Fun.  
**9.00 Deadly Pole To Pole** (R)  
**10.00 Animal Super Parents** (R)  
**11.00 12 Puppies And Us** (R)  
**12.00 Rick Stein's Spain** (R)  
**1.00 FILM: The Heroes Of Telemark** Stars Kirk Douglas. The Norwegian resistance launches a sabotage plan to stop occupying Nazi forces developing an atomic bomb. Striking thriller. (1965, PG)  
**3.05 Flog It!** Selling valuables. (R)  
**3.30 All That Glitters — Britain's Next Jewellery Star** (R)  
**4.30 House Of Games** Quiz.  
**5.00 Unbeatable** Quiz show.  
**5.30 Mortimer & Whitehouse — Gone Fishing** Angling. (R)  
**6.00 Simon Reeve's South America** The adventurer travels from Venezuela to Tierra del Fuego. (R)  
**7.00 A House Through Time** Charting British history through the successive inhabitants of a house. (R)  
**8.00 Kylie At The BBC** A selection of archive performances by the singer Kylie Minogue.  
**9.00 Reel Stories: Kylie Minogue.** The singer and actress takes a look back at some of her most memorable television appearances. (R)  
**9.25 Kylie Minogue Live In Hyde Park** The singer performs at the 2018 BBC Radio 2 Festival in a Day, featuring a selection of classic hits. (R)  
**10.25 Top Of The Pops 1988: Big Hits.** Featuring Yazz, S'Express, Bomb the Bass, Bros, Neneh Cherry and Eurythmics. (R)  
**11.25 FILM: Absolutely Fabulous — The Movie** Stars Jennifer Saunders and Joanna Lumley. Patsy and Edina find themselves vilified by the entire nation. Chaotic comedy spin-off. (2016, 15)  
**12.50-1.25 Mock The Week** (R)  
**6.35 Gardeners' World** Advice. (R)  
**7.35 Countryfile** Rural reports. (R)  
**8.30 Beechgrove** Gardening. (R)  
**9.00 Coast Great Guides: North Sea Coast.** (R)  
**10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites**  
**11.30-12.00 Nadiya's Everyday Baking** Recipe ideas. (R)

## ITV

- 6.00 Children's Shows** Fun.  
**9.25 News; Weather** Reports.  
**9.30 James Martin's Saturday Morning** With guest Example.  
**11.40 John And Lisa's Weekend Kitchen** New run, with John Torode and Lisa Faulkner.  
**12.40 James Martin's Great British Adventure** In the Orkneys. (R)  
**1.15 Gino's Italy — Like Mamma Used To Make** In Procida. (R)  
**1.40 News; Weather** Reports.  
**2.00 Goodwood Revival**  
**4.00 Lingo** Quiz show. (R)  
**5.00 News; Weather** Reports.  
**5.20 Regional News** Update.  
**5.30 Ninja Warrior — Race For Glory** More competitors take on the obstacle course.  
**6.30 The Masked Dancer** Five of the remaining disguised celebrities return to the stage with new routines.  
**8.00 The Voice** Emma Willis hosts as the blind auditions continue, with the coaches Anne-Marie, Olly Murs, Tom Jones and Will.i.am.  
**9.30 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?** Jeremy Clarkson gives six new contestants the chance to win up to £1m.  
**10.25 News; Weather** Reports.  
**10.40 The Jonathan Ross Show — Special Guests** Memorable clips from the talk show. (R)  
**11.10 English Football League Highlights** Recent action, including Norwich City v West Bromwich Albion.  
**12.55 Teleshopping** Goods.  
**3.00 Unwind** Daily relaxation.  
**4.15 Love Your Weekend** (R)  
**6.00 Children's Shows** Fun.  
**9.25 News; Weather** Reports.  
**9.30 Love Your Weekend** Chat.  
**11.25-1.20 English Football League Highlights** Recent action. (R)

## FILMS

### SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

- 6.15am Last Looks** Thriller. (2021, 15)  
**8.15 The 355** Action thriller. (2022, 12)  
**10.25 Sing 2** Buster Moon and his gang must persuade a reclusive rock star to join them for a new show. (2021, U)  
**12.25 Mona Lisa And The Blood Moon** Stars Jeon Jong-seo and Kate Hudson. A girl with unusual powers flees a mental asylum and tries to make it on her own in New Orleans (2021, 15)  
**2.15 Marry Me** Two music stars are preparing to get married, but she learns — seconds before her vows — that he has been unfaithful. (2022, 12)  
**4.15 Stowaway** Action thriller. (2022, 15)  
**6.00 Sing 2** Details as 10.25am.  
**8.00 Mona Lisa And The Blood Moon**  
**9.40 Marry Me** Details as 2.15pm.  
**11.40 Scream** Horror sequel. (2022, 18)  
**1.50 The 355** Action thriller. (2022, 12)  
**4.00-6.00 Last Looks** (2021, 15)

### SKY CINEMA SELECT

- 2.40pm Spider-Man — No Way Home** Comic-book adventure. (2021, 12)  
**5.10 Saving Private Ryan** (1998, 15)  
**8.00 Jason Bourne** The former CIA operative is drawn out of hiding to uncover more about his past. (2016, 12)  
**10.05 Gravity** Stars Sandra Bullock. Two astronauts stranded in orbit try to reach a space station. (2013, 12)  
**11.40 Monster Hunter** (2020, 12)  
**1.25 Batman v Superman — Dawn Of Justice** Adventure. (2016, 12)  
**4.00 Monster Family 2** (2021, PG)  
**5.50-7.20 Extinct** (2021, PG)

## CHANNEL 4

- 6.15 The King Of Queens** (R)  
**7.05 Everybody Loves Raymond** Family comedy series. (R)  
**8.00 Frasier** American sitcom. (R)  
**9.00 The Simpsons** Cartoon. (R)  
**12.30 Super League Rugby: St Helens v TBA.** All the action from the second semi-final, which comes from Totally Wicked Stadium. Kickoff 1.00.  
**3.15 A Place In The Sun** (R)  
**4.00 Love It Or List It — Brilliant Builds** Series highlights. (R)  
**4.25 Escape To The Chateau** (R)  
**5.30 News; Weather** Reports.  
**6.00 Grace Kelly — Lost Tapes Of A Princess** Documentary about the life of the movie star turned princess. (R)  
**7.00 Lost Treasures Of Rome** The seaside town of Herculaneum, destroyed alongside Pompeii. (Last in series)  
**8.00 Hitler — The Lost Tapes**  
**9.00 Griff's Canadian Adventure** Griff Rhys Jones concludes his Canadian journey in British Columbia. (Last in series)  
**10.00 FILM: Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol** Stars Tom Cruise. The secret agents are falsely implicated in a bombing. Inventive. (2011, 12)  
**12.30 FILM: A Quiet Place** Stars Emily Blunt and John Krasinski. Horror. (2018, 15)  
**2.10 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA** Advice. (R)  
**2.55 The Simpsons** Cartoon. (R)  
**3.20 Car SOS** Renovations. (R)  
**4.10 Come Dine With Me** (R)  
**6.25 The King Of Queens** (R)  
**7.15 Everybody Loves Raymond** Family comedy series. (R)  
**8.30 The Simpsons** Cartoon. (R)  
**9.30-12.30 Sunday Brunch** Chat.

### FILM4

- 11.00am Bee Movie** (2007, U)  
**12.50 The Adventures Of Tintin** A reporter goes on a globetrotting quest to find a sunken ship. (2011, PG)  
**3.10 The Great Escape** (1963, PG)  
**6.45 Raiders Of The Lost Ark** Archaeologist Indiana Jones tries to find the Ark of the Covenant before the Nazis get their hands on it. (1981, PG)  
**9.00 Snatch** A boxing promoter and his dim-witted sidekick are drawn into a match-fixing racket. (2000, 18)  
**11.05 Layer Cake** A dealer trying to go straight is sent to find a mobster's drug-addicted daughter. (2004, 15)  
**1.15-3.20 The Business** (2005, 18)



Spaced out: Bullock (SCS, 10.05pm)

## CHANNEL 5

- 6.00 Milkshake!** Fun for children.  
**10.00 The Smurfs** Cartoon. (R)  
**10.15 Spongebob** Animation. (R)  
**10.25 Entertainment News** Gossip.  
**10.30 Friends** American sitcom. (R)  
**1.30 Holiday Homes In The Sun** In and around Bergerac. (R)  
**3.30 The Greek Islands With Bettany Hughes** Exploring the myths and stories of Greek gods and heroes. (R)  
**5.00 Cruising The Panama Canal** Susan Calman continues her Caribbean and Central American cruise. (R)  
**7.00 All Creatures Great And Small** Drama, with Nicholas Ralph and Samuel West. Three months have passed and it is now spring 1939, with big changes happening at Skeldale. (S3, ep 1, R)  
**8.00 The Unforgettable Hattie Jacques** An in-depth profile of the comedy actress.  
**9.30 The Big Fight** Live coverage of the light-heavyweight bout between Lyndon Arthur and Walter Gabriel Sequeira, held at Bolton Whites Hotel.  
**11.30 World's Funniest TV Ads** Jason Manford takes a look at amusing commercials from around the world. (R)  
**1.00 The LeoVegas Live Casino Show** Interactive gambling.  
**3.00 Entertainment News** Gossip.  
**3.05 Traffic Cops** Insights.  
**3.50 Bargain-Loving Brits In The Sun** Documentary. (R)  
**4.40 Now That's Funny!** (R)  
**5.30 Children's Shows** Fun.  
**6.00 Milkshake!** Fun for children.  
**10.00 The Smurfs** Cartoon. (R)  
**10.15 Spongebob** Animation. (R)  
**10.25 Entertainment News** Gossip.  
**10.30 NFL End Zone** Recent action.  
**11.00-12.00 Friends** Sitcom. (R)

### TALKING PICTURES TV

- 1.55pm Down To The Sea In Ships** Seafaring adventure. (1949, PG)  
**4.25 Genevieve** Comedy. (1953, U)  
**6.05 The Woman In Question** Stars Dirk Bogarde. Thriller. (1950, PG)  
**8.00 Maigret** Mystery drama.  
**9.05 The Seven-Ups** An undercover cop is unaware he is being manipulated by one of his own informants. (1973, 15)  
**11.10-2.00 Black Sunday** (1977, 15)

## ENTERTAINMENT

### ITV2

- 2.45pm FILM: Dr Dolittle 2** **4.30** FILM: Smurfs — The Lost Village **6.20** FILM: Wonder Woman. Stars Gal Gadot and Chris Pine. An Amazon princess learns her destiny when she leaves home to fight a war **9.00** FILM: Ted. Stars Mark Wahlberg, with the voice of Seth MacFarlane. A boy's foul-mouthed living toy remains his friend into adulthood **11.10** Family Guy **12.05** American Dad! **1.00** All American **2.35-3.00** Unwind

### ITV3

- 6.00pm** Darts. Live coverage of the World Series finals **10.00** Midsomer Murders. With John Nettles. An old family feud resurfaces in Midsomer Parva **12.00** Poirot. An aristocrat is murdered at a masquerade ball **1.10** That's My Boy **2.10-2.30** Unwind

### ITV4

- 9.30am** Racing — The Opening Show. A look ahead to the day's racing **10.30** The Big Match Revisited. From 1974



# BBC4

**7.00pm The Treasures Of Ancient Rome** Alastair Sooke explores the Roman Empire's artistic treasures. (Last in series)

**8.00 Himalaya** Michael Palin travels from K2 in Pakistan to Ladakh in India — a relatively short trip geographically, but one that requires a considerable feat of logistics.

**9.00 FILM: The Girl With A Bracelet** Stars Melissa Guers and Roschdy Zem. A teenager from a wealthy middle-class family comes under investigation after the death of her best friend. Unnerving drama. (2020, 15; French with subtitles)

**10.35 Gorbachev. Heaven** An portrait of Mikhail Gorbachev.

**12.15 Keeping Up Appearances**

**12.45 Ever Decreasing Circles**

**1.15 The Treasures Of Ancient Rome** (Last in series)

**2.15-3.15 Himalaya** Insights.



In the dock: Guers (BBC4, 9pm)

**11.30** World Superbike Highlights **12.35** Made In Britain **1.10** Racing. Coverage of the day's race meetings **4.00** FILM: Rooster Cogburn. Stars John Wayne and Katharine Hepburn. **6.15** FILM: Butch Cassidy And The Sundance Kid. Stars Paul Newman and Robert Redford **8.30** River Monsters **9.00** English Football League Highlights **11.00** FILM: Force Of Execution. Stars Steven Seagal **1.10** Extreme Salvage Squad **2.10** The Protectors **2.40-3.00** Unwind

**E4**  
**5.50pm** The Big Bang Theory **7.15** FILM: Bride Wars. Stars Kate Hudson and Anne Hathaway. Comedy **9.00** Celebrity Gogglebox. Shows appraised include Platinum Party at the Palace **10.00** Gogglebox **12.10** First Dates **12.15** Celebrity Gogglebox **3.10** Derry Girls **3.40-6.00** Hollyoaks

**MORE4**  
**5.50pm** Four In A Bed **6.55** Matt Baker — Travels With Mum & Dad **8.00** Huge Homes. The actor Hugh Dennis visits an extraordinary labyrinthine home in Berkshire **9.00** 24 Hours In A&E. Double bill **11.05** 8 Out Of 10 Cats Does Countdown **1.10** 24 Hours In A&E **3.20-4.10** Food Unwrapped

**GOLD**  
**5.40pm** Only Fools And Horses **10.20** All Round To Mrs Brown's. With Noel Edmonds, Fay Ripley, Scarlett Moffatt, Shaun Williamson and James Morrison **11.35** Newark, Newark. Leslie and Amber go on a double date **12.15** The Royle Family **1.10** Peep Show **2.25** French And Saunders **3.30-4.00** Peep Show

# TALKTV

**6.00 Cristo** Morning updates.

**7.00 David Bull** Roundup of the biggest stories of the day.

**10.00 Peter Cardwell** The latest news from parliament and exclusive interviews.

**1.00 Trisha Goddard** A look through the leading stories.

**4.00 Claudia Liza** Discussing the biggest stories of the day.

**7.00 Saturday Night Talkaway With Kevin O'Sullivan** The host gives his unique take on the week's top stories.

**10.00 The James Whale Show** Opinions and commentary.

**1.00 Darryl Morris** Discussion throughout the night.

**5.00-6.00 Cristo** Morning updates. Available on Sky 526; Freeview 237; Virgin 627; Freesat 217; YouTube, connected TVs and smart devices

# SKYMAX

**6.00pm NCIS: Los Angeles** An employee of the navy's missile defence programme is murdered. (S13, ep 18, R)

**7.00 The Ultimate Romcom Movies** With Clara Amfo, Ellie Taylor and Russell Kane. (R)

**8.00 A League Of Their Own** With, Russell Howard, Maisie Adam and David Walliams. (R)

**9.00 Never Mind The Buzzcocks** Music quiz show, with guests Nile Rodgers, Russell Howard and Mae Muller. (R)

**9.45 Banshee** Racine requests help in dealing with Mr Rabbit. (Series 2, ep 5, R)

**10.40 Brassic** Chinese Dan gives his retired racing greyhound to Cardi. (Series 4, ep 2, R)

**11.40-12.40 Freddie Fries Again** (R)

## YESTERDAY

**6.00am** Forbidden History **8.00** Great British Landmark Fixers **9.00** Bangers And Cash **1.00** Abandoned Engineering **4.00** Steam Train Britain **7.00** Bangers And Cash **10.00** One Foot In The Grave **12.00-1.00** Bangers And Cash

## DAVE

**6.00pm** Would I Lie To You? **8.00** Not Going Out **10.00** FILM: Superbad. Stars Jonah Hill and Michael Cera **12.30** Room 101 **1.10** Dave Gorman — Terms And Conditions Apply. With guests Sally Phillips, Desiree Burch and Jessica Knappett **2.10-4.00** Room 101

## FACTUAL

### NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

**6.00pm** Hitler's Teen Killers. Charting the teenage soldiers of Hitler's 12th SS Panzer Division **7.00** Nazi Child Soldiers. Documentary exploring the history of the Hitler Youth **8.00-2.00** World War II — The Apocalypse. Six editions

### DISCOVERY

**6.00pm** Wheeler Dealers. Mike Brewer has a tip from an unusual source — his electrician **7.00** Gold Rush **8.00** Gold Rush — Dave Turin's Lost Mine. An approaching snowstorm threatens to shut Team Turin down **9.00** Mysteries Of The Deep. The secrets of a 150-year-old shipwreck off the Mexican coast **10.00** Expedition Unknown. Josh Gates digs into the swamp to hunt the lost fortune of the Ashley Gang **11.00** UFO Witness **12.00-5.00** Mountain Monsters

# ATLANTIC

**6.00 Fish Town** Brixham life.

**10.00 Boardwalk Empire** Drama.

**3.30 The Sopranos** Bobby 'Bacala' Baccalieri Sr comes out of retirement. (Series 3, ep 5)

**4.40 The Sopranos** Meadow's social life at college takes a turn for the worse. **5.45 The Sopranos** Christopher and Paulie argue; Junior has surgery for stomach cancer; and Carmela visits a therapist.

**6.50 The Sopranos** Tony's generosity in giving up his time with Dr Melfi pays off — but his feud with Ralph reaches breaking point. **7.55 The Sopranos** Tony eyes up a new car, and its saleswoman; Christopher gives Adriana a music club to manage; and Anthony Jr gets his comeuppance for vandalising the swimming pool.

**9.00 Game Of Thrones** Joffrey's rule prompts the people of King's Landing to riot; and Qhorin gives Jon a chance to prove himself. (Series 2, ep 6) **10.05 Game Of Thrones** Theon embarks on a hunt as he tries to prove his Ironborn status; and Daenerys receives a useful invitation.

**11.10 Game Of Thrones** Robb Stark discovers he has been betrayed by one of his closest friends; and Arya calls in a debt. **12.15 Game Of Thrones** Tyrion defends King's Landing against Stannis Baratheon's naval assault. **1.20 Game Of Thrones** Jon proves his worth to Qhorin Halfhand.

**2.30 The Gilded Age** (3/9)

**3.30 In Treatment** (S2, ep 23)

**4.00-6.00 Urban Secrets** Insights.

## SKY ARTS

**5.30pm** Lennon's Last Weekend. A look at the musician's final interview **7.00** Kool & The Gang Play Baloise Session. The American funk and soul band perform at the Swiss festival in 2017 **8.50** Toto Play Baloise Session. The American rock band perform at the Swiss indoor festival **10.25** Freddie Mercury — The Untold Story. A profile of the singer **11.40-1.10** A Carly Simon Moonlight Serenade. Performance

## PBS AMERICA

**4.55pm** Russia 1917 — Countdown To Revolution **6.15** Stalin — Inside The Terror. A portrait of the Soviet leader **8.10-12.00** In Search Of Medieval Britain



Hudson and Jeon (SCP, 8pm)

# DRAMA

**11.00 Sharpe** (Series 2, ep 2)

**1.00 Pie In The Sky** Crime drama.

**4.00 Inspector George Gently** A schoolgirl with links to a rising TV star is murdered. (S4, ep 1)

**6.00 The Brokenwood Mysteries** A man dies shortly after an altercation with his neighbour. (Series 4, ep 3)

**8.00 Shakespeare & Hathaway — Private Investigators** Frank Hathaway and Luella Shakespeare investigate the disappearance of an Eastern European oligarch. (S2, ep 3)

**9.00 The Missing** An undercover police officer comes forward with possible information about Oliver. (Series 1, ep 3)

**10.20 The Missing** The case is thrown into disarray.

**11.40 Silent Witness** A diplomat is shot dead. (Series 21, ep 3)

**1.50-4.00 Dalziel & Pascoe** A chemist is killed in a sealed lab. (Series 11, ep 4)



We should be so lucky (BBC2, 8pm)

# SPORT

### SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT

**6.00am** News **7.00** Good Morning Sports Fans **8.00** LIVE NPC Rugby **10.00** Soccer Saturday Pre-Match **10.30** LIVE One-Day Cup Cricket **12.00** LIVE EFL: Swansea City v Hull City. Kickoff 12.30 **3.00** LIVE One-Day Cup Cricket **5.00** LIVE SNF: Tottenham Hotspur v Leicester City. Kickoff at 5.30 **7.45** LIVE EFL: Middlesbrough v Rotherham United. Kickoff at 7.45 **10.15** LIVE LPGA Tour Golf **11.00** LIVE PGA Tour Golf **2.00** News **3.00** Super League Gold **3.05** LIVE NRLW **4.50** Super League Gold **4.55-6.00** LIVE NRLW

### EUROSPORT 1

**6.00am** Cycling **8.00** Roland-Garros **9.30** Sailing **10.00** Cycling **12.00** LIVE Cycling **2.00** LIVE Cycling **3.30** LIVE Cycling **4.30** Cycling **5.30** LIVE Triathlon PTO Tour **10.05** Cycling **12.00** Discovery Golf **12.35** LIVE Cycling **4.10** Cycling **4.40-8.20** LIVE Cycling

### BT SPORT 1

**6.00am** ESPN FC **6.30** Uefa Europa League **7.30** PL Preview **8.00** Scottish Football **8.30** WWE **10.00** The Football's On **11.00** Joe Cole Cast **11.30** LIVE PL: Wolverhampton Wanderers v Man City. Kickoff 12.30 **3.00** Score **5.00** LIVE National League: Aldershot Town v FC Halifax Town. Kickoff 5.20 **7.30** LIVE Serie A **9.45** Uefa Champions League Goals Reload **10.00** LIVE UFC **3.30** Ligue 1 **4.30** Down The Clubhouse **5.30-6.00** National League Highlights

# RADIO

## PICK OF THE DAY

## The Documentary

**BBC World Service, 12 noon** In *The Future of Hip Hop*, gay rapper Cakes da Killa meets queer and female artists to discuss how far they've come and where they want to go now. **Radio 2 Live In Leeds** (1pm-12am) has sets from Simple Minds, Elbow, Tears For Fears, Craig David, Ella Henderson, Bananarama, Sophie Ellis-Bextor and Kaiser Chiefs. **Mark Kermode** (Scala Radio, 1pm) has the theme of "great music, shame about the film". *Clair Woodward*

### RADIO 4

**5.30** News **5.43** Prayer **5.45** Four Thought (R) **6.00** News And Papers **6.07** Ramblings (R) **6.30** Farming Today This Week **7.00** Today **8.31** (LW) Yesterday In Parliament **9.00** Saturday Live **10.30** You're Dead To Me **11.00** The Week In Westminster **11.30** From Our Own Correspondent **12.00** News **12.01** (LW) Shipping **12.04** Money Box **12.30** The News Quiz (R) **1.00** News **1.10** Any Questions? (R) **2.00** Any Answers? **2.45** 39 Ways To Save The Planet (R) **3.00** Censoring An Iranian Love Story (R) **4.00** Weekend Woman's Hour **5.00** Saturday PM **5.30** Political Thinking **5.54** Shipping **6.00** News **6.15** Loose Ends. Music from Sheku Kanneh-Mason and Jesca Hoop **7.00** Profile **7.15** This Cultural Life **8.00** Paris-Zurich-Trieste — Joyce L'European. European influences on the work of James Joyce (R) **9.00** The Corrupted. By GF Newman (R) **9.45** Joe Smith And His Waxworks (R) **10.00** News **10.15** Bringing Up Britain (R) **11.00** Brain Of Britain (R) **11.30** Contains Strong Language Live From Birmingham (R) **12.00** Midnight News **12.15** Living With The Gods (R) **12.30** Short Works (R) **12.48** Shipping **1.00** As World Service

### RADIO 3

**7.00** Breakfast **9.00** Record Review **11.45** Music Matters **12.30** This Classical Life **1.00** Inside Music **3.00** Sound Of Cinema **4.00** Music Planet **5.00** J To Z. With Azimuth in concert at the We Out Here festival **6.30** Opera On 3: Salome. At the Edinburgh International festival, the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra plays Richard Strauss, with the Swedish soprano Malin Byström taking the title role **8.20** New Generation Artists. The baritone James Newby sings Schubert's Die Schöne Müllerin, recorded at London's Wigmore Hall in February; and the pianist Eric Lu plays Mozart's Piano Sonata in B flat **10.00** New Music Show. Including a work by composer Cameron Biles-Liddell **12.00** Freeness **1.00** Through The Night

### TIMES RADIO

**6.00** Chloe Tilley And Calum Macdonald With Times Radio Breakfast **10.00** Hugo Rifkind **1.00** Alexis Conran **4.00** Ayesha Hazarika **7.00** The TLS Podcast. A roundup of all the week's news in the world of books **8.00** Stories Of Our Times **8.30** Matt Chorley **9.00** Highlights From Times Radio **10.00**kait Borsay. An early look at Sunday's newspapers **1.00** Highlights From Times Radio





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